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BEFORE THE CW PROGRAM EXPIRES ON DEC. 31, 2014

OPINION METER
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Should the statements of financial interest of public officials be made public?
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INSIDE

ASIA

The Philippines charges nine Chinese fishermen with poaching at a disputed sea. ➤ PAGE 17

LIFE & STYLE

A hotel is investigating a leak of a video that shows Beyonce's sister attacking Jay Z. ➤ PAGE 19

Inos renews call for CW extension

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

» DHS proposed rule on CW grace period now in *Federal Register*

Gov. Eloy S. Inos renewed yesterday his call for U.S. Department of Labor Secretary Thomas Perez to extend the Commonwealth-only worker program beyond Dec. 31, 2014, citing plans now underway to build 2,600 new hotel rooms, the first major projects initiated on the islands "in over a decade" that the governor hopes would "signal a turning point" for the local economy. Perez has a July 4 deadline to decide on the issue.

Inos hopes that the CNMI "can count on" Perez's "immediate support."

"Time is of the essence and please let me know if there is anything I can do to help facilitate the decision-making and ensure that the CW program is extended at the earliest time possible," Inos said in his May 13 letter to Perez, whom he

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Barpery is found not guilty

» Camacho says sex took place but with consent in exchange for money

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Guidotti

A Superior Court jury has unanimously found security guard Parvez MD. Barpery not guilty of charges that he raped a 17-year-old girl in front of his girlfriend at a motel in San Jose last year.

After deliberating for about four hours yesterday, the six-person jury—composed of four women and two men—reached a verdict of not guilty of sexual assault in the first degree.

Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho, who presided over the trial and decided on the misdemeanor charge, also found the 44-year-old Barpery not guilty of disturbing the peace.

Barpery appeared emotionless upon hearing the jury's and Camacho's verdict.

The alleged victim, who is now 18 years old, only went inside

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Best Sunshine: $2 billion financing 'not a problem'

» 1st phase to include 401-room hotel, casino in 2017-2018
» Marianas Stars seeks meeting with commission

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Best Sunshine International Ltd., the remaining applicant for a license to develop a minimum $2-billion casino resort on Saipan, presented to the Lottery Commission and the public for the first time yesterday parts of its business plan, which includes a 2020 grand opening for a four-phased integrated resort that it hopes will transform Saipan into "the Monaco of the Pacific," similar to Singapore's world-renowned Sentosa.

The first phase includes a 401-room hotel and casino and will be built in 2017-2018. The investor is required to build a total of at least 2,000 rooms.

Best Sunshine is a direct wholly-owned subsidiary of First Natural Foods Holdings

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HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
Best Sunshine International Ltd. chief operating officer Terence Tay, right, presents portions of the Saipan casino license applicant's business plans on Capital Hill yesterday afternoon, while CNMI Lottery Commission consultants look on. Also in photo are casino investigator B2G Global Strategies' Steven L. Gomez, left, and gaming consultant The Innovation Group of Companies' Joel Rittvo.

Report: Climate change now impacting NMI. PAGE 3
2 men arrested for alleged As Teo burglary. PAGE 5

Local

Governing body takes no action on CHCC board resolution

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

The governing body of the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. has yet to act on the decision of its board of trustees to issue a 90-day renewable medical privilege to the public hospital's former orthopedic surgeon.

CHCC board resolution 2014-02, which was passed on April 23, mandated the governing body—headed by CEO Esther Muña—to comply with the board resolution within 10 days after the adoption of the order. Yet up to now, the governing body has yet to provide one to Dr. Grant Walker, the Idaho-based physician whose medical privilege at CHC was terminated last year.

CHCC board chair Joaquin Torres confirmed with *Saipan Tribune* yesterday the governing body's lack of action. However, he assured that the issue will be among the agenda in an upcoming board meeting where the board will ask for an explanation from the governing body.

When asked to comment, Walker confirmed receiving no correspondence or notice from the governing body about any action on the board resolution.

However, he told *Saipan Tribune* that "I have been informed that after 10 days, Resolution 2014-02 stands, along with 90 days of my initial privileges." He did not elaborate on who informed him about this.

The physician also expressed his opinion about Public Law 16-51, which created the corporation.

"Under Public Law 16-51, only the CEO and the board of trustees have legislative authority, just like every other U.S. hospital. P.L. 16-51 states that the board of trustees is advisory except and it goes on to list those exceptions. One of those exceptions is in credentialing, and they are given powers," he told *Saipan Tribune* in an email yesterday.

Walker also disclosed his plans of returning to the CNMI soon.

The CHCC board of trustees earlier ruled in favor of Walker, after it found that the physician was denied due process when his medical privilege was terminated by the corporation's governing body days before his contract's expiration.

Medical privilege allows a physician to use the treatment facilities of the public hospital for their surgeries and operation. Upon losing this privilege, a doctor—whether in public or private clinics— cannot operate or provide services to clients.

CHCC hired Walker from Idaho in October last year to

See CHCC on Page 4

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Report: Climate change now impacting NMI

By JAYSON CAMACHO
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REPORTER

The CNMI is now being impacted by climate change, according to the U.S Global Change Research Program's third National Climate Assessment.

The assessment report submitted to the White House states that "mounting threats to food and water security, infrastructure, health, and safety are expected to lead to increasing human migration, making it increasingly difficult for Pacific Islanders to sustain the region's many unique customs, beliefs, and languages."

The assessment also states that warmer oceans are leading to increased coral bleaching and disease outbreaks in coral reefs; freshwaters will be affected; some areas will have reduced rainfall; and sea levels will rise on all Pacific Islands, including the CNMI and Hawaii.

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) said that coastal erosion and decreasing freshwater supplies are among the impacts to the CNMI and other Pacific Islands.

The report includes a 100-page document on climate change and its local impact on the CNMI as prepared by the CNMI Climate Change Working Group.

Changes to marine ecosystem

According to the USGCRP's assessment, warmer oceans are leading to increased coral bleaching and disease outbreaks in coral reefs and ocean acidification will "strongly affect coral reef fish communities."

USGCRP states that freshwater supplies are already limited and will become "more limited on many islands."

"This is caused due to saltwater intrusion related with sea level rise, which will reduce the availability and quality of freshwater in coastal aquifers, especially on low islands" USGCRP says.

According to USGCRP's research, "future sea surface temperatures are projected to increase 1.1 degrees Fahrenheit by 2030, 1.8 degrees Fahrenheit by 2055, and 2.5 degrees Fahrenheit by 2090."

Bleaching events (as a result of higher ocean temperatures) can weaken or kill corals. The research shows that there have been incidences of coral bleaching that have been recorded in Micronesia, including the CNMI and American Samoa.

It also shows that ocean acidity has increased by about 30 percent since the preindustrial era and is projected to increase by 37 to 50 percent from recent levels by 2100.

"Curstose coralline algae, an inconspicuous but important component of reefs that help reefs to form and that act as critical surfaces on which other living things grow, are also expected to exhibit reduced growth and survival," USGCRP says.

Freshwater availability

The study shows that in areas where precipitation does not increase, freshwater supplies will be adversely affected, as air temperature rises.

Different islands will be affected by different factors, including variability patterns that affect storms and precipitation like El Niño.

USGCRP states that most islands in the Pacific will have increased temperatures "coupled with decreased rainfall and increased drought [that] will reduce the amount of freshwater available for drinking and crop irrigation."

USGCRP also states that the "extremes of El Niño and La Niña generally persist for 6 to 18 months and change phase roughly every 3 to 7 years."

Increased stress

The USGCRP report states that projected climate changes will significantly alter the distribution and abundance of many native marine, terrestrial, and freshwater species in the Pacific Islands.

"The climate change will also cause an increased stress on native plants and animals. Increased temperatures especially in high-elevation ecosystems with increasing exposure to invasive species will also increase the risk of extinction," USGCRP says.

USGCRP research shows that some, "perhaps many," invasive plant species will have a competitive edge over native species as they disproportionately benefit from increased carbon dioxide, disturbances from extreme weather and climate events, and an ability to invade higher elevation habitats as climates warm.

Sea levels

Sea levels are rising and will increase coastal flooding and erosion, damaging coastal ecosystems, infrastructure, and agriculture, and negatively affect tourism.

USGCRP states that global average sea levels have risen by about eight inches since 1900, with recent satellite observations indicating an "increased rate of rise over the past two decades," a whopping 1.3-inch per decade.

On low Pacific Islands, critical public facilities and infrastructure as well as private commercial and residential property are especially vulnerable.

"Rising sea levels will escalate the threat to coastal structures and property groundwater reservoirs, harbor operations, airports, wastewater systems, shallow coral reefs, sea grass beds, intertidal flats and mangrove forests," USGCRP says.

Threats to lives, cultures

Climate change will not only impact the environment but also threatens lives, livelihoods, and cultures.

"The climate changes will impact the threats to food and water security, infrastructure, and public health and safety will cause an increase in human migration from low to high elevations of the land," USGCRP says.

USGCRP's research shows that "all of the climate change impacts will have an impact on human communities in the Pacific Islands."

"Because the Pacific Islands are most entirely dependent upon imported food, fuel, and material, the vulnerability of ports and airports to extreme events, sea level rise, and increasing wave heights are of great concern," USGCRP says.

The CNMI's climate variability is a possible hazard related to extreme climate events.

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New trial date in Roberto's case

The federal court has ordered a new trial date for former acting CNMI Division of Fish and Wildlife director Raymond Borja Roberto, who is facing charges of enticing two minors to engage in prostitution and for witness tampering.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona on Monday set the new trial date on July 23, 2014.

Roberto, through counsels David Lujan and Joaquin Torres, asked for more time to conduct their own investigation in the case after the U.S. government added the charge of witness tampering.

Lujan appeared telephonically at the hearing. Assistant U.S. attorneys Rami Badawy and Ross Naughton appeared for the U.S. government.

Last week, the U.S. government filed an additional charge of witness tampering against Roberto on top of two counts of enticement of a minor.

The defendant pleaded not guilty.

According to the second superseding indictment, on April 24, 2014, while detained pending trial, Roberto allegedly attempted to influence testimony of an individual and tried to persuade that person to alter, destroy, and conceal evidence. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

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BARPERY

From Page 1

the courtroom shortly after Camacho finished explaining his not-guilty verdict.

When asked to comment on the verdict, Barpery only stated that he is thankful to the Commonwealth.

Barpery's counsel, attorney Daniel Guidotti, said he and Barpery were happy with the verdict. "We believe that justice was done in the Commonwealth today," Guidotti said.

In acquitting Barpery, Camacho said the case is about consent and credibility.

Camacho found the testimonies of the government's three main witnesses—the alleged victim, her cousin, and Barpery's former girlfriend, Daisina Suda—not credible. He said the testimonies of the alleged victim and Suda were inconsistent with their prior statements.

He said the alleged victim's cousin was the most unbelievable of all, when she tried to explain her inconsistent statements by accusing the police and Barpery of conspiring to deal drugs and discredit her statements.

Camacho said he has pieced together the events based on the testimonies of the government's and defense's witnesses.

The judge said that Suda asked the alleged victim's cousin to join her and Barpery in a threesome, which the court believed took place. The cousin agreed to the threesome in exchange for money, he said.

Camacho said he believes that sex did in fact take place and the alleged victim agreed to have sex in exchange for money.

"As disgusting as these sex acts of Barpery and Daisina Suda with these 16- and 17-year-olds, the sex was with consent," he pointed out.

Camacho said that after pimping the two girls, Suda proceeded to hound Barpery for money, even to the point of twice chasing him with a knife. The judge noted that several government and defense witnesses testified that Suda repeatedly tried to get money from Barpery. Barpery eventually could not continue paying Suda, and by extension, the two girls. The police were then contacted as a way to pressure Barpery to pay, Camacho said.

What Suda and the two girls did not count on is that once a police report is filed, it has a life of its own and they were not able to control the domino effect, the judge said.

Camacho said Suda and the two girls could not keep their stories straight, at times making it up as they went along, creating bigger and bigger inconsistencies.

Camacho said that if Barpery had been charged with prostitution, he would be guilty.

"But sexual assault in the first degree—which means sexual penetration without consent—that is not what the testimonies and evidence that the court heard in this trial," the judge said.

Assistant attorneys general James McAllister and Margo Brown-Badawy, who prosecuted the case, refused to comment on the verdict.

The jurors began deliberating before noon after the prosecution and the defense counsel rested their case and gave their closing arguments.

The alleged victim and her cousin had accused Barpery of sexually assaulting them in separate incidents in May 2013 at a motel in San Jose while they were still minors. Suda, 41, also accused Barpery of sexually assaulting a 17-year-old girl in front of her inside the motel.

The trial began on Monday.

FINANCING

From Page 1

Ltd., which will be renamed Imperial Pacific International Holdings Ltd. on May 20.

Meanwhile, Marianas Stars Entertainment Inc., whose application was rejected on May 8 for not depositing $30 million in escrow on time, has sought a meeting with the Lottery Commission on Friday, *Saipan Tribune* learned. Marianas Stars wants a reconsideration of their casino license application's rejection.

Best Sunshine chief operating officer Terence Tay, a former state counsel and deputy public prosecutor with the Attorney General's Chambers of Singapore, briefed the Lottery Commission and members of the public yesterday about the investor group's plans once given an exclusive Saipan casino license.

"We seek your approval to give us the opportunity to invest no less than $2 billion in this enchanting paradise and work together with all of you to deliver a product that every government will be proud of," said Tay, formerly with Genting Singapore that wholly owns Resorts World Sentosa.

Tay was part of the steering team that built the Sentosa integrated world resort as a general counsel and head of corporate affairs. Singapore's Resorts World Sentosa was named "Best Integrated Resort" in 2011, 2012, and 2013 at the TTG Travel Awards, which recognizes the best of Asia-Pacific's travel industry.

In his presentation, Tay said Best Sunshine will totally fund this investment.

"We have no expectations of subsidies or contributions by your government. We do everything ourselves, with your approval of course," he said.

In a brief interview with reporters before the commission went into an executive session with its consultants and Best Sunshine, Tay said financing the project is "not a problem."

The commission has hired two U.S.-based international consulting groups: casino investigator B2G Global Strategies whose principals and investigators include retired FBI and DEA agents, and gaming consultant The Innovation Group of Companies.

Commission members that received the presentation yesterday were chair Sixto Igisomar, who is also the Commerce secretary; Finance Secretary Larrisa Larson, Public Safety Commissioner James Deleon Guerrero, and Deputy Attorney General Gil Birnbrich.

Unlike previous commission meetings, yesterday's meeting drew members of the public. Gov. Eloy S. Inos also listened to the presentation a few minutes after it started, along with Marianas Visitors Authority managing director Perry Tenorio and other government personnel.

Tay told reporters he is not at liberty to disclose at this time the location for the project but he said Best Sunshine has been actively looking around.

"We really want an iconic building so we need a good location for that," he said.

When asked about controversies involving First Natural Foods Holdings' founder and other related firms, Tay said these companies are "subject to various strict Hong Kong [Stock] Exchange rules which is also why I should not comment so much…because anything I comment is going to affect any listed companies' obligations…" When asked whether they are connected with Emperor Holdings, which is embroiled in controversy, Tay said, "No."

Tay spent some 30 minutes in presenting parts of Best Sunshine's business plans during the commission meeting, before it went into executive session.

Accompanying Tay at the meeting were two other Best Sunshine executives and two consultants.

In his presentation, Tay cited examples of challenges and successes they had in planning and building Singapore's Sentosa to become the integrated resort that is now known worldwide. He said the same experiences, expertise, and planning could be used on Saipan.

He talked about the soon-to-be called Imperial Pacific International Holdings Ltd., the majority owner of which is Inventive Star.

"Earlier this year, Imperial Pacific acquired certain interests in a Macau VIP gaming business with operations in various casinos in Macau including Wynn, Galaxy, MGM, and Venetian. And now we are truly excited about the prospect of moving on to our next investment, which is going to be in the Northern Mariana Islands," he said.

Tay also briefed those in attendance about the nature of an integrated resort, citing Singapore's Sentosa resort island as an example. Resorts World Sentosa, spanning 49 hectares, welcomed over 45 million visitors in its first three years of opening. It is home to the region's first-and-only Universal Studios theme park and the Marine Life Park. Other attractions include a maritime experiential museum, a destination spa, a casino, six unique hotels, a convention center, celebrity chef restaurants, and specialty retail outlets.

With an integrated resort concept, visitors would not run out of activities, most of which are not related to casinos, Tay said. But casinos, he said, would help finance the other attractions and facilities.

For decades, casino gaming in the CNMI was authorized only on Tinian and later Rota. This changed this year when the Legislature and the Inos administration approved a bill authorizing casino gaming on Saipan, citing the need for new sources of revenue to fund the government's growing obligations, including restoration of retirees' deferred 25-percent pension since last year.

EXTENSION

From Page 1

met earlier this year at a White House dinner.

Meanwhile, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's proposed rule to allow CW workers to continue working for up to 240 days or eight months while their CW permit renewal applications are being processed was published in the *Federal Register* on Monday.

The proposed rule is available at www.regulations.gov.

The deadline for submitting written comments to the proposed rule is July 11, 2014.

Inos, in a two-page letter to Perez, acknowledges that the CW program extension issue is a "somewhat contentious" one.

"I nonetheless urge you to continue the necessary efforts to prolong the existence of this program, which is so critically important to our economy. The bottom line is that that CNMI's economy is unprepared at this time to withstand a mass exodus of alien workers," he told Perez.

If the CW program is not extended, some 10,000 foreign workers will be forced to go home en masse. The CNMI still does not have enough U.S. worker pool to fill the void that would be left if there's going to be a mass exodus after 2014.

"The potential adverse effects of zeroing-out the Commonwealth's nonresident worker program at the end of this year will devastate immediate and future economic and business growth in the CNMI," Inos said.

He pointed out that such a result would be in "clear violation" of the Congressional Intent of Section 701 (a) (1) (A) of U.S. Public Law 110-229, which calls for the "orderly phasing-out of the nonresident contract worker program of the Commonwealth."

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) has repeatedly called on Perez to grant a five-year extension of the CW program. Later, Sablan's plea was for Perez to make his decision public, ahead of the July 4 deadline for a decision.

If and when Perez announces a decision on July 4, that would only be five months away from the end of the CW program on Dec. 31.

Gubernatorial candidate and former governor Juan N. Babauta also wrote a letter to Perez dated May 11, urging the U.S. Labor secretary to extend the CW program by five years to bring "stability and predictability for businesses and other employers in the CNMI" and to provide time for these businesses to "plan ahead in increasing the employment of U.S. citizens and other U.S. eligible workers in the workforce."

Inos, in his Tuesday letter to Perez, talked about two major construction projects in the planning and development stages that will create a combined 2,600 more hotel rooms in the CNMI.

The governor was referring to a new hotel in Marpi and San Antonio of at least 300 rooms each. The 2,000 new hotel rooms are part of a planned integrated resort plan that also includes a casino on Saipan, but the construction of which still depends on the decision of the Lottery Commission whether to grant an exclusive Saipan casino license.

Inos said both of these projects are genuine and will require additional construction workers and hospitality workers to complete and operate.

"These two development projects are the first major construction and/or growth projects initiated in the CNMI in over a decade and hopefully signal a turning point from the economic stagnation which has prevented economic growth and success in the CNMI," he said.

Inos added that the projects present an "incredibly positive opportunity to develop our tourism-based economy and the extension of the CW program will enable these projects to come into operation and more importantly, continue the internal transformation of our workforce from foreign-based workers to a U.S. citizen-based workforce."

The direct byproducts of projects like this in the long run, he said, will be more jobs and a progressively higher standard of living for CNMI citizens.

"But please understand, there are simply not enough U.S. citizen workers in our islands at this time to bring these projects to fruition and, given the Commonwealth's somewhat unique economic circumstances, history, and geographical location, an extension of the CNMI-Only Transitional Worker Classification program is an absolute prerequisite for success," Inos told Perez.

Copies of Inos' letter were also sent to DHS Secretary Jeh Johnson, Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel, Interior Secretary Sally Jewell, and the CNMI's delegate to the U.S. House of Representatives, Sablan. The governor also furnished copies to the CNMI Legislature.

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce and other private sector groups in the CNMI have also asked to extend the CW program.

As frustration grows with the lack of a decision on a CW extension, Sablan recently introduced a standalone bill extending the CW program by five years. This is similar to the language contained in Sablan's Omnibus Territories Act or HR 2200 and its Senate companion, S. 1237.

For this year, DHS capped the number of foreign workers in the CNMI at 14,000.

"That's a long way from zero," Sablan had said.

CHCC

From Page 2

serve as the hospital's orthopedic surgeon for 30 days. But prior to his contract's expiration, the governing body terminated his medical privileges due to a host of issues, including alleged unprofessional conduct and insubordination.

The board resolution specifically ordered the corporation's governing body to grant Walker a 90-day renewable medical privilege or show cause why the physician should not be granted such privilege.

It was earlier revealed that based on policy, when one is terminated, he/she has the right to a hearing and even after the hearing, there's an appeal process. The board earlier said that none of these were done in Walker's case.

It was also learned that credentialing policy dictates that the authorized committee has 90 days to act on any application for medical privilege.

Walker filed an application since November last year, but no decision has been made to date.

2 men arrested for alleged As Teo burglary

»Some stolen jewelry recovered from pawnshops; 1 suspect admits he blew money playing poker

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Police arrested two men Monday afternoon for allegedly burglarizing a house in As Teo and stealing assorted jewelry and other items.

Gorjonny V. Camacho, 21, was arrested for burglary, theft, and conspiracy, while George Grover, 22, was apprehended for conspiracy and receiving stolen property.

Superior Court Associate Judge Teresa Kim-Tenorio imposed yesterday $5,000 cash and $45,000 unsecured bond each for the two suspects' temporary release.

Preliminary hearing will be on May 20 at 1:30pm.

According to police detective Catherine B. Pangelinan, Camacho admitted to police that he burglarized the house and that Grover served as a lookout.

Pangelinan said that Camacho also confessed to pawning some of the stolen jewelry in two pawnshops and that he blew all the money at Bobbie's Poker in Gualo Rai.

Pangelinan said some of the stolen items were recovered from the pawnshops.

At the hearing, assistant public defender Benjamin Petersburg appeared as counsel for Grover. A private counsel will be appointed for Camacho.

Detective Pangelinan stated in her report that a police officer responded to a house in As Teo on April 11, 2014, in response to a report of a burglary.

Pangelinan said the stolen items were some jewelry worth $3,000, two iPods, two Fossil watches, two cell phones, and an unspecified amount of cash.

Pangelinan said that Camacho's sister later appeared at the Commonwealth Bureau of Investigation on May 5, 2014, where she reported that Camacho and Grover were behind the As Teo burglary.

The next day, Pangelinan said, a witness disclosed that he saw Camacho and Grover on the day of the burglary, holding several pieces of jewelry. The witness said he transported Camacho and Grover to a pawnshop in San Vicente and another pawnshop in Garapan.

That same day, May 6, Camacho appeared at the CBI Office and confessed it was him who burglarized the house and that Grover stayed in the jungle upon his instruction.

Camacho reportedly told police that he entered the house through a small, unlocked window. Pangelinan said that Camacho stated he knows the way inside the house because he used to go there when he was a child.

Pangelinan said she and another detective proceeded to a pawnshop in San Vicente, where they recovered some of the stolen jewelry—a gold pendant and three pairs of earrings.

Camacho was named as the seller of the jewelry for $150.

Two other detectives went to a pawnshop in Garapan where they recovered two gold necklaces pawned by Camacho on April 11, 2014, in the amount of $600 and $220.

The victim identified all the jewelry recovered from the pawnshops as her property.

Police also searched Camacho's house in As Teo and Grover's apartment in Gualo Rai, where other stolen jewelry and items were seized.

The police report did not state whether the victim's other items were recovered during the search.

FERDIE DE LA TORRE
Gorjonny V. Camacho, left, and George Grover emerge from the courtroom of Superior Court Associate Judge Teresa Kim-Tenorio after a bail hearing yesterday. Camacho and Grover were arrested on Monday for allegedly conspiring to burglarize a house in As Teo last month.

TO COMBAT SCHOOL VANDALISM, BULLYING, INCREASE IN SEXUAL BEHAVIOR

COE appeals to families, community for partnership

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The recent spate of vandalism and burglary at Kagman Elementary School and a newly released report of students engaging in risky sexual behavior, bullying, and a hike in obesity have alarmed Public School System officials, who now appeal to parents and the community to pitch in and help address these issues.

While PSS has done all it can to resolve the many issues currently besetting the islands' youth, Education Commissioner Dr. Rita A. Sablan is asking for students' families and the community as a whole to help PSS find a solution to these problems.

According to her, the adage "it takes a whole village to raise a child" is very much true and needed in the CNMI.

Campuses are secure

Despite these challenges, Sablan assured everyone that school campuses remain secure for students.

"Our schools are secure. It's the people that come into our campus who break in and that's uncalled for. They should respect our campuses because these belong to our students and whoever is doing this—vandalism and burglary—they better stop it because when we catch you, that would be the day," said a visibly upset Sablan.

KagES have fallen victim several times to vandals and, at the most recent event, to burglars. Suspects remain at large but investigations continue.

"I hope they'll catch them soon and put them all in jail," Sablan said.

Sablan declined to elaborate on security details, citing the confidentiality of the security measures being enforced by PSS.

But she admitted that in terms of "security services," many schools are challenged by their tight budgets, which also funds the hiring of security guards, cameras, and other related equipment.

Sablan

"Yes, funding is a factor because we didn't get enough money for operational costs so schools have to really tighten their budgets and makes sure they are able to provide all the services that are needed by the students," she told *Saipan Tribune*.

She said these acts of stealing and damaging school property are an obvious show of disrespect to students. She revealed that many of the damaged items and stolen materials at KagES were procured using federal funds.

"It's a big loss to our students," she added.

Youth study

On Friday, PSS released the results of its 2013 Youth Risk Behavior Survey conducted among middle and secondary school students.

Sablan said the results in three specific areas—students engaging in sex, bullying, and obesity—are at an all-time high and continue to alarm PSS.

"We actually implemented many different programs [to combat these]. We have leveraged our partnership with agencies such as the mental health, DPH [Division of Public Health], CGC [Community Guidance Center], and others. But these aren't enough. We need the entire community to come out and be part of the process because it's everybody's responsibility," said Sablan.

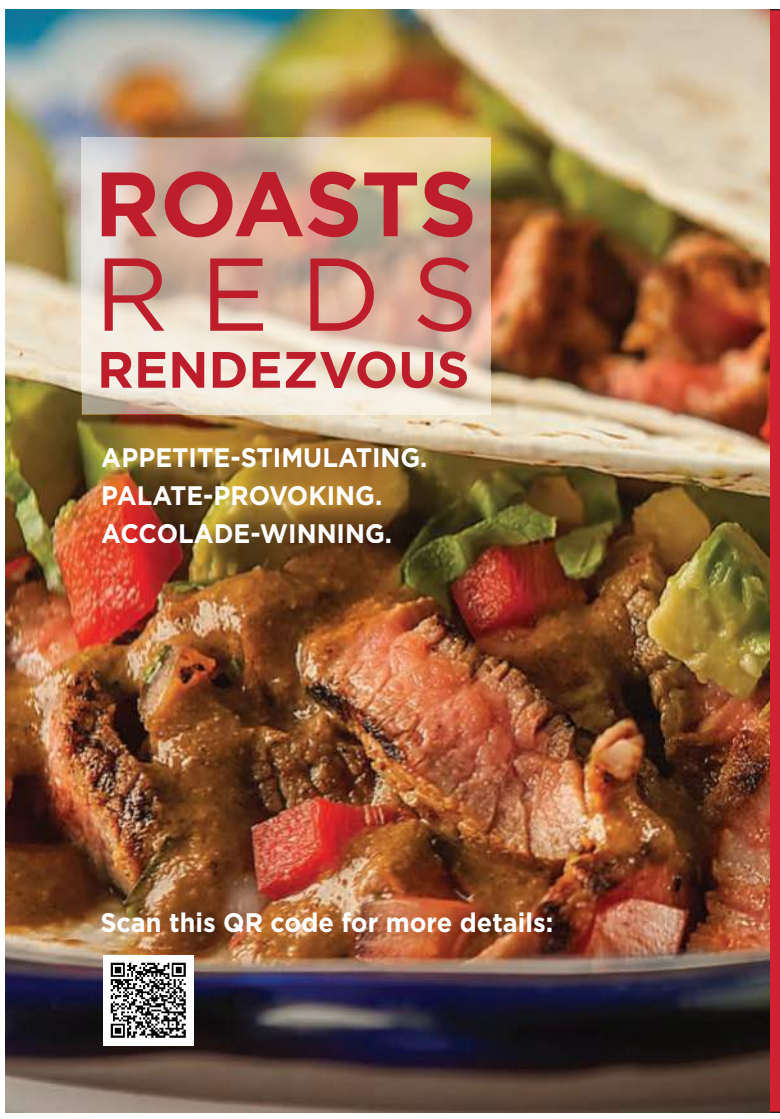
The latest survey indicated that 45 percent of student respondents had sex in the last three months—the highest recorded by the Public School System in the last five surveys conducted since 2003. In the 2003 survey, this was at 35.6 percent; in 2005, 43.1 percent; in 2009, 40.1 percent; and in 2011, 42.4 percent.

"Parents have responsibility to prepare their children to start talking about sexual behaviors and health. It should not always end up in schools because that's also a home responsibility," Sablan said.

On the issue of bullying and increasing number of obese children, the commissioner pointed out that several programs have been initiated and implemented coupled with necessary policies in place.

Based on the 2013 survey, many students disclosed that they have been bullied on school property. The results indicated that the percentage was high at 19.7 percent in 2013 compared to 18.5 percent during the 2011 survey.

Results also indicated that the percentage of students who were overweight slightly increased from 16.7 percent in 2011 to 16.8 percent in 2013.



Live Station: *Tacos al Pastor*
Global Flavor Profiles at Kili Café and Terrace
Thursday, 15 May 2014, from 6:00PM - 9:00PM

Every Thursday throughout May, we are highlighting global flavors. One of these is this Spanish-inspired Mexican favorite, Certified Angus Beef® marinated in a well-blended mixture of spices and aromatics and cooked in the style of the shepherd, cut from the spit.

Our chefs are ready to pack flavors into each taco alongside Mexican ancho mole beef short rib skewers, crispy nachos, refried beans, jalapeno fritters and a whole lot more.

Find out more about the accolade-winning 7th Annual "Roasts, Reds and Rendezvous" by calling +1 670 234 1234 ext 26 or by visiting the news and events page of our website saipan.regency.hyatt.com.

Price: US$40 per person, Club at the Hyatt members welcome.
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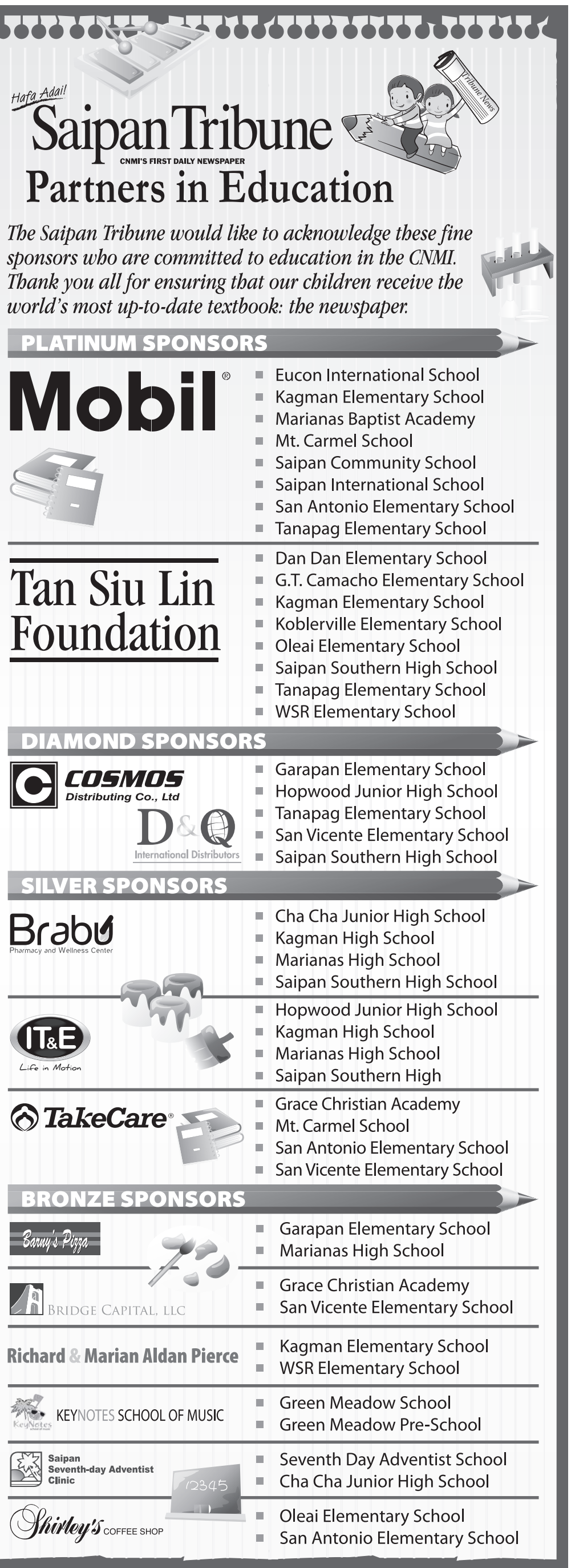

CUC wants commercial rate subsidy removed

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. filed on May 2 a new petition with the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission for the removal of the commercial rate subsidy.

Public Law 16-7, which was enacted on July 21, 2008, mandated CUC to implement a residential rate reduction or a residential consumer rebate program in the amount of $3.4 million within 54 months after the law is enacted.

On Feb. 4, 2014, the CPUC approved giving residential electric ratepayers a refund of this $3.4 million. The commission authorized CUC to institute 36-month residential refund of $0.23 kWh, which would be funded by a reciprocal increase in commercial rates.

CUC was also ordered to propose how and by what amount the commercial rate should be reduced after 36 months. CUC was also required to certify on or before March 1, 2017, that the refund and commercial rate increase have been terminated.

According to CUC chief financial officer Charles Warren, the refund amount is being tracked as a separate rate element in CUC's customer information system. He said each rate element is separated out in the billing system.

"CUC proposes to provide periodic reports to CPUC on the cumulative amount and the refund billed every six months," said Warren in his May 2 written testimony to CPUC.

Warren disclosed that CUC will submit a petition to adjust the commercial rate to remove the subsidy for the refund to be effective when refunds total $3.4 million.

According to the CFO, CUC cannot provide at this time an estimated amount because it does not know the extent of the reduction over particular time periods.

"CUC does not know, at this time, what the total CUC and commercial customer kWh volume will be in three years. This information will be needed to calculate the appropriate reduction for the commercial rates," added Warren. ***(Moneth G. Deposa)***

JKPL to offer free innovative tech classes

The Joeten Kiyu Public Library is hosting free six-session innovative technology classes starting May 20.

The classes, called "Learning with Technology," will be held at the public library from Tuesday through Thursday from 4pm to 6pm.

Rosalyn Ajoste, the library's technical services librarian, said that the class will be taught by Gary Dubrall for eighth to ninth grade students.

The class size is limited to the first 10-20 students and requirements to attend the class are a school ID and a touch-screen tablet with WiFi and note-taking capabilities.

"Registration is ongoing for this entire week and interested participants may register with Mr. Dubrall in person or email," Ajoste said.

She said Dubrall developed the idea for the course "out of a personal desire to help the youth learn better by using technology."

"The goal is to show 14- and 15-year-olds how to learn using YouTube and Google for all their schoolwork, how to take paperless notes and set up a class community on Google+, Skype, or one of their choosing," Dubrall said.

Ajoste noted that Dubrall feels that today's students are not getting what they need or want.

"If we don't keep these kids engaged, someone or something else will. You need touch screen tablets or laptops. Old technology just doesn't work anymore," Dubrall said.

For more information, visit Joeten-Kiyu Public Library in Susupe or call 235-7315/7322 or fax 235-7550 or email Dubrall at garydubrall@gmail.com. ***(Jayson Camacho)***

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF THE DRAFT SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT FOR THE GUAM AND COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS MILITARY RELOCATION (2012 ROADMAP ADJUSTMENTS) AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETINGS

The Department of the Navy (DON) is announcing the availability of the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) for the Guam and Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Military Relocation (2012 Roadmap Adjustments). The Draft SEIS supplements the Final EIS "Guam and CNMI Military Relocation; Relocating Marines from Okinawa, Visiting Aircraft Carrier Berthing, and Army Air and Missile Defense Task Force" dated July 2010. The Record of Decision for the Final EIS was signed on September 20, 2010, and published in the Federal Register on September 30, 2010 (Volume 75, Number 189, Page 60438). The DON prepared this Draft SEIS for the purpose of supplementing the portions of the 2010 Final EIS regarding the establishment on Guam of a cantonment (including family housing), a live-fire training range complex (LFTRC), and associated infrastructure to support the relocation of a substantially reduced number of Marines and dependents than was previously analyzed.

The Navy will host public meetings on Guam to obtain comments on the Draft SEIS. All comments will become part of the public record and will help officials make informed decisions on the proposed action. The meetings will be comprised of two parts: (1) an informational open house and (2) public hearing.

The public is encouraged to attend the meetings, which will be held on the following dates, times, and locations:

- Saturday, May 17, 2014, open house from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. and public hearing from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., Okkodo High School, 660 Route 3, Dededo;
- Monday, May 19, 2014, open house from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. and public hearing from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., Father Dueñas Memorial School Phoenix Center, 119 Dueñas Lane, Chalan Pago; and
- Tuesday, May 20, 2014, open house from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. and public hearing from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., Gymnasium, Naval Base Guam – Santa Rita Annex, Bldg. 4177 (former McCool School), Naval Magazine Road Santa Rita.

During the open house portion of the meetings, informational posters will be displayed and DON representatives will be available to discuss the proposed action, answer questions, and to accept written comments from the public. A Chamorro interpreter will be available. Oral comments will be recorded during the public hearing portion of the meetings. Speakers will be limited to three (3) minutes to ensure all who wish to speak have an opportunity to do so. If a long statement is to be presented, it should be summarized at the public hearing and the full text submitted in writing. These meetings will also serve to provide information to the public about how the 2011 Programmatic Agreement fulfills the requirements under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act for the proposed action.

Interested agencies, individuals, and groups unable to attend the public meetings are encouraged to submit comments by June 17, 2014, Chamorro Standard Time (ChST). Mailed comments should be postmarked no later than June 17, 2014, ChST to ensure they are considered.

Mail comments to: Joint Guam Program Office Forward
P.O. Box 153246
Santa Rita, Guam 96915

Comments may also be submitted via the website (http://guambuildupeis.us). Point of contact is Commander Curtis Duncan, Joint Guam Program Office at (703) 602-3825. On Guam, contact Major Darren Alvarez, Joint Guam Program Office Forward, at (671) 339-3337.

Over 70 volunteers from Japan Saipan Travel Association, the Marianas Visitors Authority, and other tourism partners participated in their semi-annual industry cleanup of Garapan on April 26, 2014, in preparation for Japan's Golden Week holiday and Tourism Month. MVA

JSTA kicks off Tourism Month with cleanup

The Japan Saipan Travel Association and its tourism partners kicked off May Tourism Month celebration early with a cleanup in the main tourist district of Garapan on April 26. The semi-annual cleanup came as part of preparations for visitors expected during Japan's Golden Week holiday and May Tourism Month.

Beginning at 6:30am, 73 volunteers collected trash along the tourist district roadways and beaches from the Carolinian Affairs Office to Micro Beach. Participating groups were Marianas Visitors Authority, Tasi Tours, Mode Tour, C.O.U., Capricciosa Restaurant, Tony Roma's, Peace Divers, PMT, Fiesta Resort & Spa, Sea Shore, Truong's Restaurant, Aqua Connections Inc., MSC / NMDOA, Watabe, Dolphin Brain, NTA, Marianas Trekking, Good Care, Pau Pau Tours, PDI, Hana Tour, Aqua Resort Club, Sealovers Saipan, Itoshuko, and Saipan Stevedore.

In celebration of Tourism Month, the MVA's signature event Taste of the Marianas International Food Festival & Beer Garden kicked off on March 3 at American Memorial Park. The event will be held every Saturday this month. ***(MVA)***

Shai placed on administrative leave

Tinian Mayor Ramon M. Dela Cruz has placed Edward Shai, resident department head for the Tinian Department of Finance, on administrative leave, pending results of charges filed against him by the Office of the Public Auditor.

Dela Cruz has appointed Benedicto Decena, currently in charge of Customs Division for the Department of Finance, to be the acting resident department head. Decena has over 20 years of experience at the Tinian Department of Finance and is respected by his fellow employees.

Shai is accused of submitting false travel documents in order to cash per diem checks for his personal use. Shai, 50, was served Friday with an arrest warrant on Tinian on charges of theft by deception and misconduct in public office. ***(PR/Tribune files)***

Guam soldiers to celebrate US Army's birthday

All soldiers, retirees, and veterans are invited to commemorate the 239th birthday of the United States Army at the Annual Birthday Ball, to be held at the Sheraton Laguna Guam Resort on Saturday, June 14.

For more information or to purchase tickets, contact Chief Warrant Officer 2 Stephen Pangelinan, at 735-4690 or at stephen.p.pangelinan.mil@mail.mil, or CW02 Bernard Aguon at 735-0418 or at bernard.l.aguon.mil@mail.mil. ***(PR)***

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Board of Parole
P.O. BOX 502641, Saipan, MP 96950-2641
Tel: NOS.: (670) 664-3300 – 3304 FAX: (670) 664-3310
E-mail: govbop@pticom.com

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

This is to inform the General Public that due to unforeseen circumstances the **Parole, Review and Revocation Hearing scheduled for May 14, 2014 (Wednesday)** beginning at **9:00 A.M., and if need to be continue on May 15, 2014 (Thursday) at 8:30 A.M.** at the **Jose M. Sablan Building, Department of Public Safety Conference Room, is hereby RELOCATED** to the **Pedro P. Tenorio, Multi-Purpose Building, Susupe, Saipan. Date and time remain as scheduled.**

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call the Board of Parole Office at telephone numbers 664-3300 or 3303. We apologize for the inconvenience this may have caused.

/s/Joseph T. Guerrero
Chief of Parole

16th
TASTE OF THE
MARIANAS
MAY 2014
INTERNATIONAL FOOD FESTIVAL AND BEER GARDEN
AMERICAN MEMORIAL PARK
MAY 3, 10, 17, 24 & 31, 2014
Saturday, May 17, 2014
6:00 MHS Prep Band
6:30 Zumba
7:00 Filipino Culutral Dances
7:30 Cab Dancers
8:00 Island Warriors
8:30 Teka Naha Nui
9:30 Latte Vibe
10:00 Closing
Food Concessionaires
1. Fiesta Resort & Spa
2. Hyatt Regency Saipan
3. Pacific Islands Club
4. Canton Restaurant
5. Furusato Restaurant
6. Sierra Pearl Shakes
7. Capricciosa/Tony Roma's
8. D'Elegance Café
9. Herman's Modern Bakery
10. Hula Girl/3's Inc.
11. Thai House Restaurant
12. Poon's Restaurant
13. Tropical Chill
14. Mariana Resort & Spa
Beer Garden Vendors
Pacific Trading Company
Marianas Pacific Distributors Inc.
Northern Marianas Bartender Association
For more information, please contact the Marianas Visitors Authority Headquarters at telephone numbers 1 (670) 664-3200/01 or visit the website at www.mymarianas.com
Saipan Tinian Rota
2014 CNMI TOURISM MONTH
"Tourism is Everybody's Business"
Taste of the Marianas International Food Festival & Beer Garden
This highly anticipated weekly celebration will be held every Saturday in May at American Memorial Park from 6-10 p.m. The event will feature delicious local and international cuisine sold by 14 hotel and local restaurants. Enjoy the talent of local and international performers with live entertainment all evening. The event will feature nightly competitions, as well as trivia questions aimed at promoting tourism awareness.
"My Marianas" Community Outreach Presentation
Get up-to-date on the latest industry trends and upcoming tourism events during this picturesque slideshow on Saturday evenings at the Taste of the Marianas.
On-the-Street Interviews
MVA turns the spotlight on you as random community members are given an opportunity to share their views on various tourism topics in the Tourism Tuesday feature of the Saipan Tribune.
Radio Tourism Trivia
Call in with the correct answer for your chance to win tokens for the Taste of the Marianas and Tourism Month T-shirts. "Tourism Trivia" will be aired regularly throughout the month on Power 99 (99.5 FM), (103.9 FM) and KKMP (1440 AM).
Balloon Popping Competition
1st Heat 8:00pm
(Ages 14 years & below)
2nd Heat is at 8:30pm
(Ages 15 years & up)

MHS' Corpuz accepted to nat'l scholars group

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Marianas High School 12th grader Magdiel Corpuz is the latest addition to the growing membership of the prestigious National Honor Society of High School Scholars.

His acceptance to the society was recently announced by the organization's top executives that include president James Lewis and founder and chairman Claes Nobel, a senior member of the family that established the Nobel Prizes.

Magdiel is the son of Gol and Jocelyn Corpuz. He said he is thrilled to be part of an honor society that seeks to instill great leadership and scholarship for high school students. He said he wants to bring recognition for the CNMI, his parents, and God.

After high school, Magdiel will pursue a business management course at the University of Guam.

Among the achievements and recognitions under his belt include the Principal's List Award in 9th grade and the Commissioner's List award in 10th to 12th grade.

Corpuz

Magdiel was also finalist for the Original Oratory Category at the 2013 NFL Competition. He is a member of several clubs such as the CNMI PSS-Youth Advisory Panel where he serves as the president, The Truth Bible Club where he serves as vice president, the Rotary Interact Club, and AmeriCorps.

He is currently ranked in the Top 1 percent of his graduating class, has extensively volunteered in the community, and has over 350 hours of service learning. He has dedicated his time to the Rotary Rock to Read, the 2013-2014 Marianas March Against Cancer, and the 2014 American Red Cross with Oleai Elementary School, to name a few.

The NSHSS recognizes top scholars who have demonstrated outstanding leadership, scholarship, and community commitments. Membership to the group entitles qualified students to enjoy a wide variety of benefits including scholarship opportunities, academic competitions, free events, member-only events, publicity honors, and personalized recognition items.

"On behalf of NSHHS, I am honored to recognize the hard work, sacrifice, and commitment that Magdiel has demonstrated to achieve this exceptional level of academic excellence," said Nobel, adding that Magdiel is now member of a unique community of scholars—a community that represents the very best hope for the future.

According to Lewis, the vision of the society is to build a dynamic international organization that connects members with meaningful content, resources, and opportunity.

"We aim to help students like Magdiel build on their academic successes and enhance the skills and desires to have a positive impact on the global community," said the president.

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Log on to pacificains.com/fortyforforty for details about this Giveaway.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

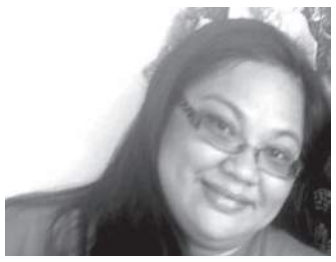
40 FOR 40 GIVEAWAY

Henry Cabrera is the seventh winner in Pacifica Insurance Underwriters, Inc.'s 40 for 40 Giveaway promotion. Forty for 40 is a giveaway promotion designed to thank the CNMI and Pacifica customers for 40 years of business—40 winners in celebration of 40 years. Also in the photo is Pacifica staff member Janel Pangelinan. Last drawing is slated for Dec. 15. For information about Pacifica's 40 for 40 Giveaway, log on to www.pacificains.com/forty-forforty or call 234-6267/7722/7310.

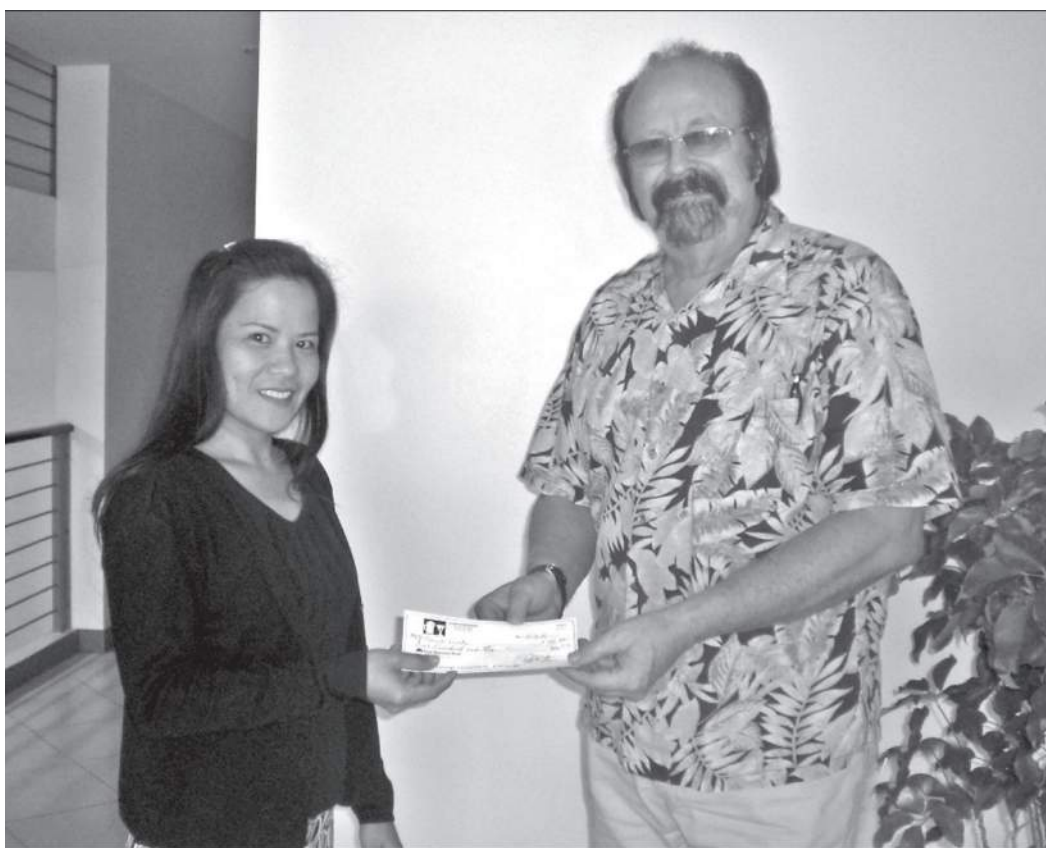
BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUTS

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy birthday greetings go out to Pauline Roligat, who is celebrating her special day today! Wishing you good health, happiness, success, and more birthdays to come. Greeting coming from your WIC familia!


CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy birthday to the best mom in the world, Zinna Agulto! You're still hot for an old lady! I love you. Have a blessed birthday with many more to come. Love, your zoo crew in Chalan Kiya.


CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

A GIVING HEART

Ron Biggers, co-owner of Godfather's Bar, presents Maricar Guintu a $100 donation to help raise funds for her son, Frederic Dean Guintu, who was the overall winner of the Public School System's State Mathcourt Competition. The fifth-grader Guintu, along with three other students, will be representing the CNMI at the nationals in Houston, Texas, on June 7.

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

May 14, 2006

Fund: Call it repayment, not writeoff

If the Fitial administration's writeoff bill would not result in the nonpayment of retirement benefits, then it should propose a repayment scheme, not debt forgiveness, said an official of the NMI Retirement Fund. "If what they are saying now is true, then call it a repayment plan, not a writeoff. What they are proposing in the bill is a writeoff. That's different," said Fund board chair Joseph Reyes in an interview. The administration said on Friday that its proposals to write off the $124 million unfunded liability, suspend employer contribution, and to require the Fund to loan $40 million to the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. would not result in the nonpayment of pension and other retirement benefits.

'March' raises over $90K despite odds

Although this year's organizing committee managed to attract only 15 teams for the 4th Annual Marianas March Against Cancer on Friday, the event still pulled in a whopping $92,250.53—some $32,000 higher than the $60,000 goal. According to committee chair Tricia Tudela, the steering committee is overwhelmed with the amount they managed to raise during the event, which started Friday night and ended at 6am yesterday. Tudela said they could not ask for more other than to thank the people, the business community and the local government for making the event wildly successful.

May 14, 2007

Draft of immigration bill now with Senate committee

The draft legislation federalizing CNMI immigration is now with the U.S. Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. Deputy Assistant Secretary David Cohen said the Department of the Interior submitted the draft bill on Friday night. May 11, 2007 was the third deadline given by the Senate panel for the bill to be submitted.

US Congress calls for updated GAO report on CNMI economy

Ranking members of the U.S. Congress are calling on the comptroller of the United States to produce an updated economic report on the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Ranking members of the Senate Committee on Energy & Natural Resources and the House Committee on Natural Resources, both committees with jurisdiction on the CNMI, wrote to the U.S. Comptroller David M. Walker on May 4, asking for additional information on the CNMI economy, in view of proposed federal legislation affecting the CNMI's immigration and minimum wage policies. "As the Congress considers whether federal immigration and minimum wage laws should be extended to the CNMI, we ask that GAO develop additional information on the CNMI economy," wrote U.S. senators and representatives.

May 14, 2008

CPA under state of emergency

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial declared the Commonwealth Ports Authority under a state of emergency yesterday to deflect any legal issues that might arise from his takeover of the autonomous agency. The state of emergency legally allows the governor to assume direct control of CPA immediately. This follows the executive order that the governor issued Monday to abolish the CPA board of directors, which had been unable to muster a quorum and act on urgent measures to save CPA from further financial damage. The executive order alone does not allow Fitial to take over the ports authority until the Legislature has been given 60 days to look at—and possibly, amend or void—the governor's action.

Economy still down, tourism numbers up

While majority of economic indicators continued to slump in the first quarter of 2008, visitor arrivals and hotel occupancy figures seem to show that the Commonwealth's tourism industry is on the mend. The Department of Commerce's Central Statistics Division made public the January-March 2008 Economic Indicator report yesterday and, like previous releases, it again does not paint a rosy picture of the islands' economy. Business gross revenue, general fund revenue, imports, exports, banking activity, remittance, and building permits continued to slide in the first quarter of 2008, according to the report. On the brighter side, visitor arrivals to the CNMI posted quarterly growth for the first time in years, while daily hotel rate and hotel occupancy inched up, which are positive news to the tourism industry of the Commonwealth.

COTA seeks $900K local budget

By JAYSON CAMACHO
jayson_camacho@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Office of Transit Authority is seeking a $908,556 budget for fiscal year 2015 from the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation.

COTA administrator Thomas Camacho said the funding will be used to operate the first-ever public transportation system on the islands.

» COTA's 2015 local budget not included in Inos' submissions

Camacho said the request was based on COTA's actual budget analysis.

"Unfortunately, COTA's 2015 local budget submission to the Office of Management and Budget was not included in the governor's submission, so Gov. Eloy S. Inos recommended we write a letter to the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation for financial assistance," he said.

Camacho said the financial support will help recruit 21 transit operators and cover other operating costs such as fuel, repairs, and maintenance, which are essential to "smoothly implement Saipan's public transit system."

Camacho's letter to delegation chair Rep. Ray Tebuteb (Ind-Saipan) also gave lawmakers an overview of the Saipan Fixed-Flex Route and Paratransit Feasibility Study Report.

"The report provided a five-year operating budget with the first year initial budget of $937,655 and capital budget for the first year of $2.9 million. While COTA is applying for federal grant to fund the $2.9 million capital equipment and infrastructure for the initial implementation of the fixed-flex route and paratransit systems, COTA needs the support and assistance locally thus is the purpose of the letter," Camacho said.

According to him, the $900,000 is the "initial or seed money" request that will eventually be lower per year since COTA will be generating revenue from its farebox collections, advertisements in bus stop shelters and benches, and concessions fees. Also included in future revenues are from parking meter fares.

"Eventually dedicated local funding from vehicle driver's license and registration fees and fuel tax. These dedicated local funding source will provide the CNMI a sustainable public transportation system," he said.

Camacho noted that the local funding support for the initial operation "is a good investment and is a welcome partnership and commitment by our federal grantor and grant reviewers."

COTA recently submitted a Capital and Planning Grant application to the U.S. Department of Transportation for a TIGER grant worth $4.7 million.

That grant application and the $908,556 that COTA is asking from the local delegation "complements each other. Both projects will be funded from federal and local funding resource critical in starting and sustaining the CNMI's first-ever and properly planned public transit system," Camacho said.

He said that no federal grant alone could support the capital and operating costs of an agency such as COTA.

"That is why it is essential that our leaders support this new public service beneficial to our residents, especially those who do not have access to a private vehicle of their own and those who can't afford buying their own car to get around the island," he said.

As mandated under Public Law 17-43, COTA is the agency charged with the authority to develop, establish, and oversee a transportation system for the CNMI. COTA is also mandated, in collaboration with the Commonwealth Public Transportation Advisory Board, to assess the CNMI's transportation needs and develop a viable public transportation system.

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

REQUEST FOR STATEMENTS OF QUALIFICATIONS CUC-RFSOQ-14-017

DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT, SURVEYING, CONSTRUCTION INSPECTION, AND OTHER A&E PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FOR VARIOUS COMMONWEALTH UTILITIES CORPORATION WATER AND WASTEWATER PROJECTS

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting Statements of Qualifications (SOQ) from qualified engineering consulting firms for the following purposes: Designing water and wastewater infrastructure including but not limited to water main, sewer main (gravity and pressure), lift stations, booster pumping stations, water storage reservoirs, treatment works, upgrades to existing facilities; providing construction management services including but not limited to submittal review, clarification and technical assistance related to contract plans and specifications, field engineering due to changes in conditions during construction, construction inspection, review of partial payment requests; surveying; and other related engineering services on various CUC Water and Wastewater Projects on the Islands of Saipan, Rota and Tinian, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The RFSOQ package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $100.00 for one RFSOQ package set. Prospective engineering consulting firms for this RFSOQ must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division by May 30, 2014 to be considered.

A pre-proposal conference will be held on May 21, 2014 at 10:00 a.m. (ChST), at the CUC Training Room, 3rd Floor, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies of the SOQ must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked *"CUC-RFSOQ-14-017, Request for Statements of Qualifications"* to CUC Procurement & Supply Division, 3rd Floor, Room No.3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O.Box 501220, Dandan, Saipan MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 a.m. (ChST) on June 9, 2014**. Statements of Qualifications mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time.

All qualified engineering consulting firms are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the engineering consulting firm due to lack of information or understanding of the RFSOQ requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a SOQ under the contract.

Discussions may be conducted with responsible/ qualified engineering consulting firms for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of, and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. All qualified engineering consulting firms shall be accorded fair and equal treatment. There shall be no disclosure of any information derived from the SOQ submitted by competing qualified engineering consulting firms.

This RFSOQ does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of statements of qualifications in anticipation of a contract. This request and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC procurement regulations. The contractor shall be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable federal regulations.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered prospective respondents and must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 a.m. (ChST) on May 22, 2014 to Manny B. Sablan, Manager, CUC Procurement & Supply Division via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to John Riegel, Chief Engineer, CUC Water/Wastewater Division via email address john.riegel@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all SOQ for any reason and to waive any defects in said RFSOQ, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All SOQ shall become the property of CUC.

ALAN W. FLETCHER
Executive Director,
Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

MANNY B. SABLAN
Manager, Procurement &Supply
Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

BEFORE THE COMMONWEALTH PUBLIC UTLITIES COMMISSION

COMMONWEALTH UTILITIES CORPORATION RATE PROCEEDING **DOCKET 13-01**

NOTICE OF BUSINESS MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission [*Commission*] will conduct a public workshop at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday May 22, 2014 at the CDA Conference Room, CDA Building, Beach Road, San Jose to review and receive public comment regarding the following rate requests from the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation [*CUC*]:

1. CUC's April 28, 2014 petition with supporting testimony for the establishment of an incentive rate, which is intended to encourage large commercial electric customers with their own installed generating capacity to become full requirement CUC customers. CUC's petition and supporting testimony are available for public review on CUC's website.

2. CUC's request that the following fees be either established or adjusted:

Fee	Current Fee	Proposed Fee
Late charges [electric, water & wastewater]	1%	10%
New electric service – single phase	$135	$450
New electric service – three phase	$0	$800
New electric service connections – after hours	$0	$600
Investigation [electric]	$60	$210
Disconnection at pole	$0	$220
Reconnection at pole	$0	$200
Renewable energy installation inspection	$0	$690
Renewable energy annual inspection	$0	$125
Unauthorized electric connection	$0	$550

In its February 5, 2014 Decision, the Commission deferred consideration of these proposed fees for further review. CUC relies upon its July 2013 *Non Rate Fees and Services Cost Analysis and Study* to establish that the proposed fees are necessary, just and reasonable. This study is available for public review on CUC's website. The Commission's independent regulatory consultant Georgetown Consulting Group will issue its report on these proposed rate requests on May 14, 2014. The Georgetown report will also examine the need and reasonableness of CUC's convenience fee.

The May 22, 2014 public workshop will be followed by a 9:00 a.m. May 29, 2014 combined public hearing and Commission business meeting at the CDA Conference Room at which additional public comment will be welcomed and considered as part of the Commission's deliberation on the above CUC rate requests.

THE COMMISSION WELCOMES THE PUBLIC'S ATTENDANCE at the workshop and combined hearing – business meeting. Public comments will be received at the workshop and hearing in accordance with the Commission's *Guidelines for Public Comments* as adopted on December 10, 2013. Persons who desire to formally participate in the hearing pursuant to 4 CMC § 8409(j) of Public Law 15-35 should on or before May 16, 2014 file with the Commission at the law offices of Lillian Tenorio, Esq., Plata Dr. Chalan Kiya, Saipan [phone: 670-234-7890; email: latlaw@pticom.com] an application and offer of proof in accordance with said section and with Commission Procedural Rule 11(c).

Further information about the workshop and public hearing and the public's right to participate and comment may be obtained from Ms. Tenorio's office.

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
Office of the Secretary of Public Works
Energy Division
P.O. Box 500340, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel. Nos. (670) 664-4480/1 • Fax No. (670) 664-4483 • e-mail: cnmienergy@gmail.com

PUBLIC HEARING

The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Office of the Governor in cooperation with the Department of Public Works/Energy Division Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) will be conducting a public hearing to present the proposed WAP State Plan for Program Year 2014 and is inviting the General Public to attend this important Public Hearing.

The public hearing will be held at the Energy Division office located on Capitol Hill, House No. 1337 on May 23, 2014 at 5:00 p.m. Individuals who are unable to attend the public hearing in person may submit written comments to the Energy Division, Capitol Hill, House No. 1337, Saipan or by e-mail to cnmienergy@gmail.com or by mail to P.O. Box 500340, Saipan, MP 96950 on or before close of business on Friday, May 30, 2014.

Copies of the Draft State Plan will be made available at the Energy Division, Capitol Hill, House No. 1337 beginning Friday, May 16, 2014.

For more information, you may contact Thelma B. Inos, Energy Director, at 664-4480/81 or you may visit the Energy Division Office on Capitol Hill, Monday to Friday, except holidays, and from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

HINEKKUNGUK PUPBLIKU

I Commonwealth gi Sangkattan na Islas Marianas siha gi Ufisinan Gubietnu yan i ko'operasion i Dipattamentun Che'chu' Pupbliku/Dibision Energy gi Prugråman Asistensian Weatherization (WAP) para u makundudukta hinekkunguk pupbliku ni para u maprisenta i manmaproponi na WAP State Plan para i Prugråman i sakkan 2014 yan ha kumbibida i Pupbliku Heneråt para u ma'atendi esti na impottåntin Hinekkunguk Heneråt.

I hinekkunguk pupbliku para u makundukta gi Dibision Energy, giya Capitol Hill, Numirun Guma' #1337, gi Måyu 23, 2014, Betnis gi oran alas 5:00 gi pupuengi. Todu indibiyuåt siha ni ti sumiña umatendi i hinekkunguk heneråt siña muna'halum tinigi' upiñon siha guatu gi Dibision Energy, Capitol Hill, Numirun Guma' 1337, Saipan pat i email guatu gi cnmienergy@gmail.com pat na'hånåo i kattåm-mu guatu gi P.O. Box 500340, Saipan, MP 96950 gi pat åntis di u mahuchum i ufisina gi Betnis, Måyu 30, 2014.

Kopia siha gi Draft State Plan para u mana'guaha gi Dibision Energy, Capitol Hill, Numirun Guma' 1337 tinituhun gi Betnis, Måyu 16, 2014.

Para mås imfotmasion, siña un ågang si Thelma B. Inos, Direktot Energy, gi 664-4480/81 pat siña un bisita i Ufisinan Dibision Energy giya Capitol Hill, Lunis asta Betnis, fuera di holidays, yan gi oran alas 11:30 gi egga'an asta alas 12:30 gi dispues di talu'åni.

ARONGORONGOL TOULAP

Bwulasiyol Sów Lemelem lóll Commonwealth wól Téél Fáluw kka Faluwasch Efáng Marianas fengál me alilisil Bwulasiyool Public Works/Energy Division Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) e bwe ayoora eew arongorong reer toulap bwelle e bwe apasa rel pommol WAP State Plan rel Program Year 2014.
Arongorong yeel e bwe fis me rel Energy Division me Capitol Hill, House #1337, wóól Móózo 23, 2014, óttol 5:00 p.m.

Schóókka rese tawe re bwe fiti arong yeel, e mmwel schagh u bwe iischilong mááfiyómw rel Energy Division, Capitol Hill, House # 1337, Seipél: ngáre e-mail ngáli: cnmienergy@gmail.com me ngáre afanga ngáli P.O.Box 500340, Seipél, MP 96950 wóól me ngáre mmwal igha ebwe tittiló ótool angaang wól Bennis, Móózo 30, 2014.

Kkopiyal Draft Plan yeel nge emmwal rebwe bweibwogh me Energy Division, Capitol Hill, House #1337, wóól Bennis, Móózo16, 2014.

Rel kkapasal, e mmwel ów bwe fafingi ló llemwáár ye Thelma B. Inos, Energy Director, rel 664-4480/81 me ngáre igha u bwe mwette ló rel Bwulasiyol Energy Division ye e llo Capitol hill, Luunis mwette ngáli Bennis, saabw holidays, me ótool 11:30 a.am ngáli 12:30 p.m.

/s/ Martin C. Sablan
Secretary of Public Works

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
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NEWS ITEM: AN OLD SCANDAL RETURNS
DESPITE WHAT SOME HEADLINES WILL FALSELY REPORT, THIS IS NOT ABOUT ME VERSUS MRS. CLINTON...
I JUST FEEL IT'S TIME THE PUBLIC HEARD MY SIDE OF THE STORY... AGAIN... AND AGAIN... AND AGAIN AND...
BENGHAZI
KEVIN SIERS CHARLOTTE OBSERVER © 2014

EDITORIAL

The peril of children in cars with drunk drivers

Four-year-old Taylor Dyer died in what authorities say was a drunken-driving car crash last weekend. He was a passenger in an SUV that struck a concrete median on Interstate 55 in in Bolingbrook, Ill., flipped, and ejected him and two other young boys from the back seat. The other boys, 2 and 7, were seriously injured.

The alleged drunken driver who caused this horrific accident? Shannard Dyer, Taylor's father. He has been charged with six counts of aggravated DUI.

Many people think DUI-related deaths among children typically happen when an impaired driver crashes into a car in which children are riding. But a study published recently in the journal *Pediatrics* confirmed earlier studies that show that's not true. The study found that 65 percent of children killed in crashes involving alcohol are riding with the impaired driver.

The horrific toll: From 2001 to 2010, 2,344 children under age 15 were killed in crashes involving at least one alcohol-impaired driver, the study found. Illinois recorded 42 of those deaths.

Other disturbing findings:

■ Child seat belt use decreased as the child's age and the blood-alcohol level of the driver increased. The drunker the driver, the older a child, the less chance the child will be belted in.

■ In more than 7 of 10 cases, the impaired drivers survived the crash in which their child passenger died. That strongly suggests that had the child been properly restrained, he or she would have survived as well.

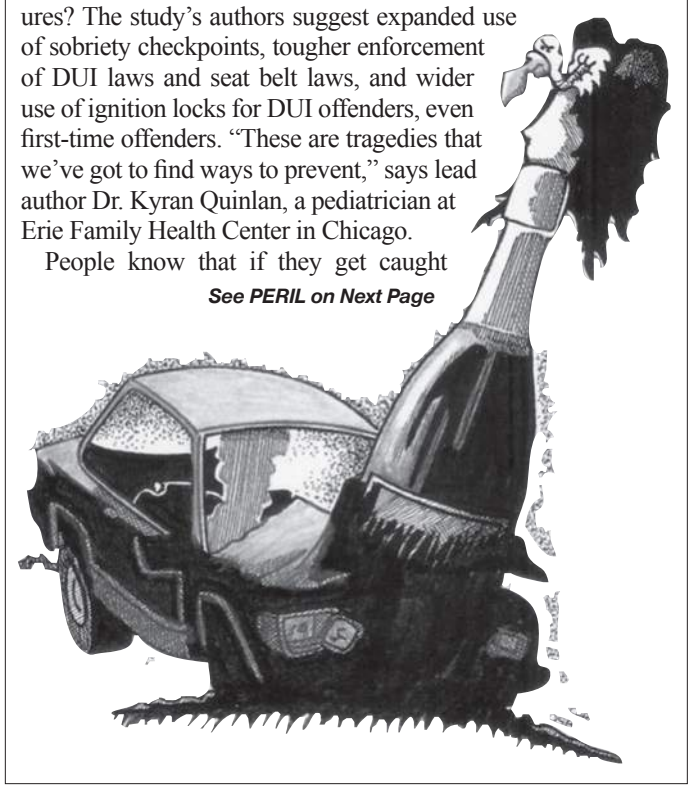
■ Drunken-driving crashes in which child passengers died were more likely to involve only one vehicle and happen at night compared to crashes in which children died as passengers of nondrinking drivers.

Encouragingly, the number of children killed riding with an alcohol-impaired driver decreased by 41 percent in the decade studied, the authors reported. That mirrors a national decline in motor vehicle crash deaths and drunken driving deaths over the same period.

What will it take to drive down these appalling figures? The study's authors suggest expanded use of sobriety checkpoints, tougher enforcement of DUI laws and seat belt laws, and wider use of ignition locks for DUI offenders, even first-time offenders. "These are tragedies that we've got to find ways to prevent," says lead author Dr. Kyran Quinlan, a pediatrician at Erie Family Health Center in Chicago.

People know that if they get caught

See PERIL on Next Page



An equitable solution to Article 12

By DAVID M. SABLAN SR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

David m. Sablan Sr. is a former president of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce and former chairman of the Marianas Visitors Authority board of directors.

I just finished reviewing House Legislative Initiative 18-1. I have a number of concerns and I would like to seek the help of our elected leaders to help me find the answers. I am sure there are others who are also in the same predicament and we need clarification on some of the concerns listed as follows:

Words used in the Initiative include "culture" and "tradition." How are these words tied to the land that individuals own? The Chamorros and Carolinians who live abroad practice our culture and tradition no matter where they are. There are many CNMI folks living in the U.S. (Washington, Oregon, California, Texas, and elsewhere) and they maintain their culture there. Some of our people on Saipan are saying that we must keep Article 12 of our Constitution because we do not want to lose our culture.

The concern I have has something to do with mixing culture and land tenure. Ironically, I too want to keep my land for my children and their children and the generations that follow. I am perfectly aware of my obligations toward my family and children. I don't need Article 12 to protect me from losing my land. I think I can do a better job protecting my private land and be able to convey my land to my children, their children and their children's children without Article 12.

I get the impression that those who are in favor of retaining Article 12 have no confidence in themselves and might feel threatened that they might be easily persuaded to do something else with their land other than to keep it. I am sure there are still many landowners who would like to be protected by Article 12. There are also those folks who prefer to be free from the protection of Article 12, like me. Both sectors of the spectrum must be accommodated and I offer something for all of us to consider.

Keep Article 12 to protect many of our landowners who wish to be under its umbrella. Provide a fair and equitable solution for those landowners who prefer to handle the fate of their fee simple land. Those that want to be perpetually free from the protection of Article 12 should be required to file a declaration with the Commonwealth Recorders Office.

The above methods will definitely accommodate all of the landowners in the CNMI. I therefore would like to impose on the goodness of our legislative leaders to introduce a "legislative initiative" that will take care of our total needs and satisfactory to all our landowners in the CNMI.

The children of my wife and I are 50 percent NMD. We have grandchildren who are 25 percent NMD. Some of our grandchildren are married and have children of their own, which makes us great-grandparents. They are now 12.5 percent NMD. Our great-grandchildren can no longer own land that we passed down to them. This is the problem that many of us in the CNMI are facing today and it will continue to get worse in the future.

HLI18-1 requires anyone (Chamorro and Carolinian) to prove that he or she has "*some degree of Northern Marianas Chamorro or Northern Marianas Carolinian blood...to provide evidence to the Superior Court.*" I suspect that if there is any question about your blood quantum, the court will require you to provide proof that you have some degree of NMD in you. It might be easy at this point in time. But in the future generations it is going to be extremely difficult to prove that you have NMD blood in your body. Without exaggerating, it is going to be extremely difficult, if not impossible, to prove that you have NMD blood in your system. This process is going to cost unnecessary legal and medical expenses to prove to the court that you are an NMD.

The economic situation and the lives of our people here in the CNMI will definitely improve once Article 12 is repealed. The bank will have the option to engage in the Federal Housing Administration Program, which is part of HUD and insures mortgage loans made by private lenders. Residents of the CNMI are currently not eligible to participate because of the restriction on conveyance of title and restriction imposed by Article 12 on lenders, which must be able to convey marketable title to HUD in the event of foreclosure or default.

Here is another headache: A person who is not NMD is hospitalized and needed blood. The local blood bank only has NMD blood supply. The hospital gives a blood transfusion to the patient who is a non-NMD. When that patient gets out of the hospital, he now has NMD blood. Can he own land fee simple in the CNMI?

I better stop here and ask the leaders of this Commonwealth to be fair to all private landowners.

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Destruction: Casino and MJ

By JOHN DELROSARIO
Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune *and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.*

Perhaps we've reached the pinnacle of lunacy. There's now a petition to legalize marijuana. Combine this with the conspiracy behind the casino law and you get a glimpse of the future of these isles. Aren't these solid pillars for perfect ruination of our island communities? Whatever happened to common decency or traditional values?

Through the years, I've seen MJ users puff it up. Gradually, they shift to a stronger drug known here as "ice" or methamphetamine. Credible studies have confirmed that MJ is the launching pad for heavier drugs. When the transition takes its seat, it contributes to family disintegration because users forcibly spend almost every penny to meet the urge of a heavier habit. In the process, we've also seen violence and heinous crimes committed under the influence of meth.

Graduation for completing education is outstanding. But graduating from MJ to "meth" and violent crimes must be slammed at all cost. If I may reiterate, it starts with marijuana. This asinine proposal must be stopped right here and now!

Here are reasons why we must stop the marijuana proposal based on a highly credible study prepared by Charles Stimson, Senior Legal Fellow at the Center for Legal and Judicial Studies at Heritage Foundation and a professor of law:

"It is contrary to federal law, which prohibits the 'production, distribution and possession' of marijuana nationwide." Nowhere would the initiative trump federal law.

"Legalization of marijuana is bad public policy because the drug is addictive and significantly impairs bodily and mental functions; its use is associated with memory loss, cancer, and birth defects, among other conditions.

"The RCTCA addresses neither the practical problems of implementation nor the fact that federal law prohibits marijuana production, distribution, and possession.

"Marijuana is not at all like alcohol. Consumption of alcohol carries few health risks and even offers some significant benefits. Consumption of marijuana impairs the immune system and short-term memory, elevates the risk of heart attack, and causes respiratory and brain damage.

"Policies aimed at legalizing marijuana will result in a myriad of unintended but predictable consequences, including increased usage by minors, additional drug trafficking by criminal syndicates, and an increase in crime.

"Despite claims to the contrary, the social costs of legalizing marijuana for revenue purposes will dwarf the meager taxes raised."

Moreover, wouldn't decriminalization, especially if combined with taxation, expand market opportunities for drug kingpins? Would local zoning law deal with where MJ could be grown to ensure it is kept away from children? Would you allow your kids to ride the school buses when the driver is working the pedals high on the drug?

The study further states, "The effects of regular marijuana consumption are quite different. For example, the National Institute on Drug Abuse (a division of the National Institutes of Health) has released studies showing that long-term marijuana consumption impairs the ability of T-cells in the lung's immune system to fight off some infections.

"These studies have also found that marijuana consumption impairs short-term memory, making it difficult to learn and retain information or perform complex tasks; slows reaction time and impairs motor coordination; increases heart rate by 20 percent to 100 percent, thus elevating the risk of heart attack; and alters moods, resulting in artificial euphoria, calmness, or (in high doses) anxiety or paranoia. And it gets worse: Marijuana has toxic properties that can result in birth defects, pain, respiratory system damage, brain damage, and stroke.

"Further, prolonged use of marijuana may cause cognitive degradation and is 'associated with lower test scores and lower educational attainment because during periods of intoxication the drug affects the ability to learn and process information, thus influencing attention, concentration, and short-term memory.' Unlike alcohol, marijuana has been shown to have a residual effect on cognitive ability that persists beyond the period of intoxication.

"According to the National Institute on Drug Abuse, whereas alcohol is broken down relatively quickly in the human body, THC (tetrahydrocannabinol, the main active chemical in marijuana) is stored in organs and fatty tissues, allowing it to remain in a user's body for days or even weeks after consumption. Research has shown that marijuana consumption may also cause 'psychotic symptoms.' To ensure the issue turns dead fish in the water instantly, appropriate federal agencies must probe advocates to soundly inform them that such an initiative is contrary to federal law."

Finally, let's retain "Mariana Islands" than chance it with "Marijuana Islands." Let's stick to traditional values and keep our spiritual wellbeing fully anchored. It's the only sure way to keep these isles adhering resolutely to "Our Way of Life" in tranquility over casino and marijuana.

Best Sunshine's fate

The cat is out of the bag, so to speak, on Best Sunshine's pending investigation into its suitability to conduct business here. The newly formed investigative team ought to focus on whether the firm is associated in any form or fashion with organized crime.

Definitely, the entire community is anxious to see how the Lottery Commission disposes of this issue upon receipt of report from the impending probe. Let's hope it dons the holster of gravitas or integrity to leadership in dealing with the matter. It's all about integrity to guard the island community from being infested and overrun by organized crime, isn't it? Let's do the thing right by doing it right!

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Give voters a chance to fix it

Give voters the chance to take back control of our government by signing the referendums and the economic initiative. By signing the referendums you will be sending a strong message to our leaders to always respect the will of the people—no means no. I'm sure most adults remember their parents repeating the same sentiment to them! We can laugh about it now, knowing our parents were right but back then as a child it was hard to swallow. Well, our leaders are acting like hardheaded children being naughty with this casino stuff and the only thing we have to put them in their place is our vote. Every voter needs to tell every voter to sign the referendum and the economic initiative and these are the reasons why:

The referendums do not kill the casino; it just forces the casino to be decided by the people so even if you are for the casino you should sign to be fair to your fellow citizens. By refusing to sign, you are saying to hell with how other voters feel and if we the people can't stick together when we know our leaders are wrong, we deserve all the problems we get so let's do it the right way.

Some people feel the casino is already a done deal and that is a big mistake because it sends the message that you have given up. Well, I taught and instilled in my students and my children that a winner never quits and a quitter never wins. If you give up, we the people will lose again and again in the future from the same bad behavior. Would you give up on your child? No! Then don't give up on your government. Do something for God's sake and sign the referendums and the economic initiative and tell your friends to sign too!

The referendums and the initiative are two pieces of legislation for the ballot that will truly be driven by the people, unlike the legislation on the ballot from our Legislature. So do readers want to support the people for a change or continue listening to a Legislature that told you only casino for 10 years? Help the people in this election, not politicians who have betrayed their oath of office and the trust of the people.

The economic initiative offers the people the opportunity to fix our economy because it's clear our leaders failed miserably. The public service ferry system, the Micronesian convention complex, the poker arcades, the legalization of pot, and the creation of an elected economic advisory commission of experts will fix our economy and make sure it remains fixed.

If the referendums and economic initiative were being promoted on the mainland, there would be long lines but in the CNMI it is like pulling teeth to get voters to be active. Heck, I was the only one protesting for our off-island students and it was only one brave lady protesting for the impeachment. The Retirement Fund almost died and not one protest by the leaders of the retirees- there is just too much *watching* things happen on the part of the people and not enough *making* things happen.

I will be on Tinian this weekend at Natibu Park at noon to present the referendums and the economic initiative and to answer questions. If it rains I will be at the Gym.

P.S.: FYI readers, the founders of America told us in the Federalist Papers that the two keys to a successful government were informed and active citizens; it is that simple. But it is obvious our leaders don't want the people to even have a chance to fix anything or be active, given their disrespect with the casino and now a vote against the Article 12 initiative, taking away another chance for the people to decide when it's the people's government! They are playing political gods with everyone's future and refusing to even give the NMDs a chance to say what they want, need, or desire. It's a sad state of affairs when the voice of the people is denied an opportunity to speak but thanks anyway for trying, Rep. Dela Cruz.

Ambrose M Bennett
Kagman, Saipan

Hey, casino guys, can any of you multiply?

Here you go again, Saipan. The mention of a $2 billion casino and everyone stats creaming their jeans. Since no one has flashed a picture of the Dubai Atlantis Hotel (1,600 rooms, $1.8B) or Macau's Venetian Hotel/Casino (3,500 rooms, $2.4B), I doubt if anyone here understands what really huge buildings these are. I've been to the Venetian and it covers an area from the Hafadai to the Hyatt. About 6 million tourists visited Dubai and 28 million Macau. When someone invests $2 billion, or any amount actually, they demand a return-on-investment of 10 to 20 percent, which, if you can multiply, comes to between $200 million and $400 million per year. Multiplying further, 2,000 rooms, even at $200 per day X 100 percent occupancy every day of the year = $146 million. Even if every guest lost $200 every day at the casino that's only another $146 million. Take out operating expenses and it is apparent that Saipan is being sold a load of crap. Infrastructure to handle 2,000 more rooms, additional flights if you can find the additional 250,000 people wanting to suddenly visit this hotel on Saipan, staffing, food and other essentials. Forget it.

The first increment will be a casino that looks like one of the "off the strip joints" in Las Vegas, big enough to lose money and launder money in and that's about it. The $400,000 for "consultants"? What is that? Wouldn't need those and surely don't need ones from Macau, one of the most corrupt places on this planet earth. If someone in the government could just multiply.

Gary DuBrall
Chalan Piao, Saipan

PERIL

From Page 10

driving drunk they'll likely lose their license. But they may not know that if they're convicted of drunken driving in Illinois and had a child in the car at the time of the violation, they face up to six months in jail and a $1,000 fine even if no one is hurt.

Shannard Dyer is out of the hospital and in jail, awaiting trial. The courts will decide Dyer's innocence or guilt. If he is convicted, the punishment may be harsh or light.

His son will still be dead.

Anyone who gets drunk and then piles kids unrestrained in the back seat of an SUV isn't likely to be persuaded by all the powerful reasons not to do that. That person serves best as a warning to others: You may not die from your recklessness but ... you may wish you had.

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Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Mostly sunny with a slight chance of showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds around 10 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲89° ▼79°	▲89° ▼79°	▲89° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°

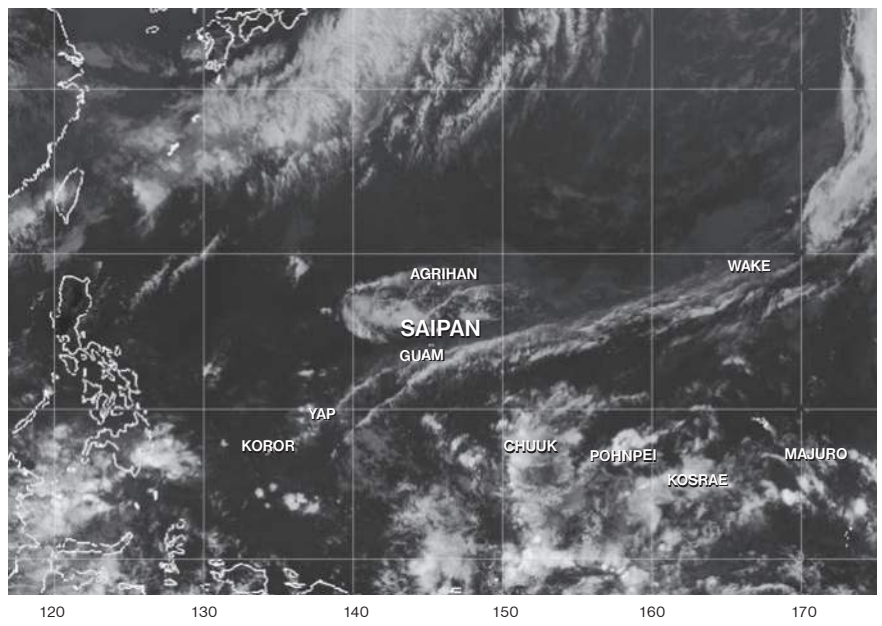
Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Partly Cloudy	▲85	▼79
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲81	▼80
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲82	▼80
Chuuk	Partly Cloudy	▲83	▼81
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	▲82	▼79
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲82	▼79
Majuro	Partly Cloudy	▲84	▼81

Around The Globe

Auckland	Thunderstorms	▲59	▼55
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	▲77	▼48
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲81	▼76
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲79	▼70
London	Mostly Sunny	▲66	▼47
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲95	▼70
Manila	Thundershowers	▲92	▼80
Melbourne	Mostly Sunny	▲70	▼55
Miami	Thundershowers	▲83	▼75
New York	Mostly Cloudy	▲67	▼54
Osaka	Mostly Cloudy	▲81	▼62
Paris	Partly Cloudy	▲64	▼43
Pusan	Cloudy	▲66	▼58
Rome	Windy	▲73	▼51
Salem	Mostly Sunny	▲83	▼53
San Francisco	Sunny	▲85	▼58
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	▲74	▼55
Tokyo	Windy	▲80	▼63
Washington, DC	Thundershowers	▲90	▼63

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, TUESDAY, MAY 13, 2014
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A cold front curves southwestward from northeast of Wake Island near 25N173E to 19N164E then continues as a shear line across the northern CNMI near Anatahan to end near 16N139E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are found along and up to 300 miles northwest of the front. Cloudiness and patchy showers exist along and up to 200 miles north of the shear line with isolated thunderstorms found west of 146E. A series of trade-wind disturbances are generating scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms southeast of Yap across Chuuk and Kosrae but south of Pohnpei and Kwajalein or south of a line from 7N140E to 9N152E to 5N158E to 7N167E. Trade-wind convergence is triggering scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms southeast of Majuro east of a line from 7N174E to 3N174E.

Tides

Saipan Harbor

2:09 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.9 Feet
7:34 AM	Today	High Tide:	2.0 Feet
2:36 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.2 Feet
9:15 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.9 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	5:49 AM	6:38 PM
Thursday	5:49 AM	6:38 PM
Friday	5:48 AM	6:39 PM
Saturday	5:48 AM	6:39 PM
Sunday	5:48 AM	6:39 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	6:09 PM	5:07 AM
Thursday	7:08 PM	5:58 AM
Friday	8:07 PM	6:53 AM
Saturday	9:06 PM	7:51 AM
Sunday	9:06 PM	7:51 AM

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

POLICY

- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

CUSTOMER SERVICE For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

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ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF APRIL 2, 2014

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA5070	4:15am	5:05am	Daily
UA5068	8:00am	8:50am	3
UA5068	8:40am	9:30am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
UA5078	3:10pm	4:00pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
UA5039	6:55pm	8:35pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota
UA5038	7:45pm	8:35pm	2, 6
UA5078	8:10pm	9:00pm	3

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

UA5038	5:35pm	6:10pm	2, 6

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

UA5038	6:40pm	7:15pm	2, 6

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL287	6:05am	8:45am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6
DL297	4:30pm	7:25pm	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ606	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ606	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ604	3:30pm	6:55pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	4:00am	8:00am	1, 5

SAIPAN-GUANZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ606/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
OZ606/701	2:50am	11: 05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5070/191	4:15am	8:55am	3, 6, 7 via GUM
DL287/473	6:05am	10:40pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 6 via NRT
UA5068/183	8:00am	9:10pm	3 via GUM
UA5078/183	3:10pm	8:45pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA5078/183	3:10pm	9:10pm	1, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ604/703	3:30pm	10:45pm	Daily via ICN

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

OZ606/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ606/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5068/179	8:00am	9:55pm	3 via GUM
UA5078/179	3:10pm	9:55pm	1, 5, 6 via GUM
OZ604/749	3:30pm	11:00pm	Daily via ICN

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA5069	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA5071	6:40am	7:30am	3
UA5071	7:15am	8:05am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
UA5077	1:50pm	2:40pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
UA5039	5:35pm	6:25pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5038	5:35pm	7:15pm	2, 6 via Rota
UA5077	6:50pm	7:40pm	3

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

UA5039	6:55pm	7:30pm	1, 4, 5, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

UA5039	8:00pm	8:35pm	1, 4, 5, 7

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:25am	3:00pm	Daily
DL288	8:55pm	1:25am+1	1, 3, 4, 5, 7

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:00pm	1:50am+1	3, 6

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

OZ603	8:50am	2:20pm	Daily
OZ605	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ605	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	7:20pm	3:00am+1	4, 7

GUANZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

DL172/288	7:45am	1:25am+1	1, 3, 4, 5, 7 via NRT
UA190/5039	9:55am	6:25pm	7 via Guam
UA190/5038	9:55am	7:15pm	6 via Rota-Guam
UA190/5077	9:55am	7:40pm	3 via Guam
OZ702/605	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ702/605	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
UA184/5071	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via Guam
UA184/5038	10:25pm	7:15pm+1	1 via Rota-Guam
UA184/5071	11:30pm	7:30am+1	2 via Guam
UA184/5038	11:30pm	7:15pm+1	5 via Rota-Guam

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/605	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/605	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA180/5071	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; VLK: Vladivostok Air; SYL: Yakutia Air; D: Dynamic Airways; ORB: OREN AIR.

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

Winners of the first and second heats of the pie-eating contest show off their certificates.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Six declared pie-eating champs in Taste of Marianas

Sixteen individuals signed up to chomp down on full-sized custard pies in the no-hands, using-only-your-mouth, pie-eating competition last Saturday as the 2014 Taste of Marianas entered its second week.

In the end, only six emerged victorious in the two-heat competition.

The first heat started out with eight competitors vying for the first three places.

Emerging victorious with faces full of pie were John Umbay, Russian tourist Armen Karapetyan, and Jun Kitagawa.

The second heat included eight competitors as well. Finishing first was an on-the-spot male participant whose name was not registered. In second place was Kaykay Reyes, the first female winner; and third was Jayson Camacho.

Both competitions had prizes for first place, which was $50 worth of Taste of Marianas tokens, $30 for second, and $20 for third. The organizing Marianas Visitors Authority said the tokens could either be exchanged for tokens or cash.

Other tourists that joined the competition enjoyed the pies and were cheering on their friends.

Karapetyan's sister, Katya, was happy to see her brother finish second.

"He likes eating [so] it was no surprise he would win," Katya said.

The turnout last Saturday was a lot bigger than the first day of the Taste of the Marianas. More tourists and community members filled the grounds of the American Memorial Park, with nearly no parking spaces left.

Booths also had different decorations this time. A representative of Sierra's Pearl Shakes and Treats said they would be changing their booth decorations every Saturday.

She said their *pandanas* are painted with the color of the pearl shakes that are being shaved. She also noted that the *pandanas* will not be taken down and is the only decoration they will not change.

Entertainment was different as well with more people crowding the stage area than the first day of the monthlong food and entertainment extravaganza. ***(Jayson Camacho)***

TINIAN CASINO GAMING CONTROL COMMISSION
Municipality of Tinian and Aguiguan
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9910(a), the Tinian Casino Gaming Control Commission (TCGCC) hereby gives notice that it will hold a Special Meeting on Thursday, May 15, 2014, at 9:00 a.m. at the TCGCC Conference Room.

AGENDA

I. **Preliminary**
   a. Call to Order
   b. Roll Call
   c. Adoption of Agenda
   d. Adoption of Minutes
II. **Public Comments**[i]
III. **Reports**
   a. Chair's Report
   b. Executive Director's Report
IV. **Unfinished Business**
V. **New Business**
   a. Ratification of Table Movement Requests
   b. Request for transactional Permit
   c. TDHC Casino Employee Applications and Hotel Registrations
VI. **Executive Session**[ii]
VII. **Miscellaneous/Administrative Matters**
VIII. **Adjournment**

[1]Public comments are limited to 30 minutes and each remark is limited to three minutes each. Everyone is welcomed to submit written comments.
[2]Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9912, the Commission may vote to meet in executive session at any time.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
TINIAN MUNICIPAL SCHOLARSHIP BOARD
Municipality of Tinian and Aguiguan
P.O. Box 520059, Tinian, MP 96952
Tel: (670) 433-1800 Fax: (670) 433-6082
Email: tinianscholarship@gmail.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9910(a), the Tinian Municipal Scholarship Board hereby gives notice that there will be a Special Meeting on Monday, May 19, 2014 at 4:00 p.m. at the Mayor's Conference Room, 1st floor, in San Jose Village Tinian.

AGENDA

I. PRELIMINARY
   1. Call to Order
   2. Roll Call
   3. Adoption of Agenda
   4. Adoption of minutes of 12/03/13
II. PUBLIC COMMENTS[2]
III. EXECUTIVE SESSION[2]
IV. NEW BUSINESS
   1. Election of Officers
   2. Review of Policies and Regulations
   3. Review and Approval of Spring 2014 Scholarship Applications
   4. Approval of Spring 2014 Award Disbursement
V. ELECTION OF OFFICERS
   1. Chairman
   2. Vice Chairman
   3. Secretary/Treasurer
VI. MISCELLANEOUS MATTER
VII. ADJOURNMENT

[1] We ask that remarks be limited to 3 minutes each. Everyone is welcomed to submit written comments on the day of the meeting.

[2] Pursuant to 1 CMC section 9912, the Board may vote to meet in executive session at any time.

[3] Individuals with special needs requiring special accommodations, please contact the TMSB office at least 48 hours prior to schedule meeting for assistance.

COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORP. • COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANAS • Established October 2011
Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation Community Guidance Center
BRABU ANTI-DRUGS REGIMEN

INVITES YOU TO A
PROCLAMATION

Declaring May 18th to May 23rd 2014 as
"National Prevention Week"

Date: Friday, May 16, 2014
Time: 10:30 AM
Place: Governor's Conference Room
Capitol Hill, Saipan

Please join us as we increase public awareness of, and action around, Substance Abuse and Mental Health issues.

National Prevention Week 2014 is about
Our Lives. Our Health. Our Future.

Light refreshments will be served.

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration
SAMHSA
Behavioral Health is Essential to Health
Prevention Works • People Recover
Treatment is Effective

May 2014 is Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month

In 1978, a joint congressional resolution established Asian/Pacific American Heritage Week. The first 10 days of May were chosen to coincide with two important milestones in Asian/Pacific American history: the arrival in the United States of the first Japanese immigrants (May 7, 1843) and contributions of Chinese workers to the building of the transcontinental railroad, completed May 10, 1869. In 1992, Congress expanded the observance to a monthlong celebration. Per a 1997 U.S. Office of Management and Budget directive, the Asian or Pacific Islander racial category was separated into two categories: one being Asian and the other Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander. Thus, this Facts for Features contains a section for each.

AMERICA FACTS FOR FEATURES

ASIANS

18.9 million: The estimated number of U.S. residents in 2012 who were Asian, either one race or in combination with one or more additional races.

6.0 million: The Asian alone or in combination population in California in 2012. The state had the largest Asian population, followed by New York (1.7 million). The Asian alone population represented 56.4 percent of the total population in Hawaii.

46.0 percent: Percentage growth of the Asian alone or in combination population between the 2000 and 2010 censuses, which was more than any other major race group.

4.2 million: Number of Asians of Chinese, except Taiwanese, descent in the U.S. in 2012. The Chinese (except Taiwanese) population was the largest Asian group, followed by Filipinos (3.6 million), Asian Indians (3.3 million), Vietnamese (1.9 million), Koreans (1.8 million) and Japanese (1.3 million). These estimates represent the number of people who reported a specific detailed Asian group alone, as well as people who reported that detailed Asian group in combination with one or more other detailed Asian groups or another race(s).

INCOME, POVERTY AND HEALTH INSURANCE

$70,644: Median income of households headed by the Asian alone population in 2012. Median household income differed greatly by Asian group. For Asian Indians, for example, the median income in 2012 was $96,782; for Bangladeshi, it was $44,293. (These figures represent the Asian alone population.)

13.0 percent: The poverty rate for the Asian alone population in 2012.

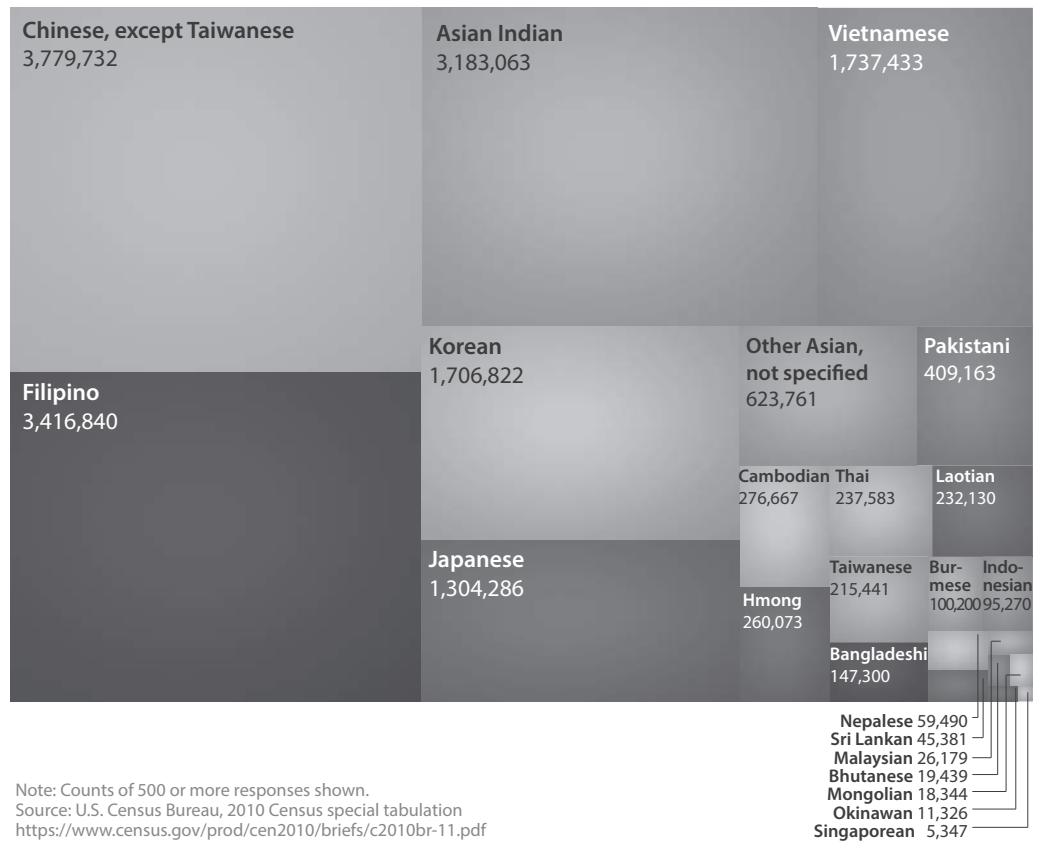
15.0 percent: Percentage of Asian alone population without health insurance coverage in 2012.

EDUCATION

50.5 percent: The percentage of the Asian alone population 25 and older who had a bachelor's degree or higher level of education. This compared with 29.1 percent for all Americans 25 and older.

85.7 percent: The percentage of the 25-and-older Asian alone population who had at least a high school diploma. This compares with 86.4 percent of the total population.

21.2 percent: The percentage of 25-and-older Asian alone population who had a graduate or professional degree. This compared with 10.9 percent for all Americans 25 and older.



Note: Counts of 500 or more responses shown.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census special tabulation
https://www.census.gov/prod/cen2010/briefs/c2010br-11.pdf

VOTING

547,000: The additional number of the Asian alone population who voted in the 2012 presidential election than in the 2008 election. All in all, 47 percent of Asians turned out to vote in 2012. A total of 3.9 million Asians voted in 2012.

SERVING OUR NATION

270,630: The number of the Asian alone population who were military veterans in 2012. About one in three Asian veterans was 65 and older.

JOBS

49.1 percent: The proportion of civilian employed Asian alone population 16 and older who worked in management, business, science and arts occupations, such as financial managers, engineers, teachers and registered nurses in 2012. Additionally, 17.3 percent worked in service occupations, 20.6 percent in sales and office occupations, 9.7 percent in production, transportation and material moving occupations and 3.2 percent in natural resources, construction and maintenance occupations.

INTERNET USE

88.6 percent: Percentage of Asian alone population in 2012 living in a household with Internet use — the highest rate among race and ethnic groups.

AGE DISTRIBUTION

36.0: Median age of the Asian alone population in 2012. The corresponding figure was 37.4 for the population as a whole.

21.3 percent: Percentage of the Asian alone population that was under age 18 in 2012, while 10.3 percent was 65 or older.

NATIVE HAWAIIANS AND OTHER PACIFIC ISLANDERS

1.4 million: The estimated number of U.S. residents in 2012 who were Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, either alone or in combination with one or more additional races.

364,395: Population in Hawaii which had the largest population of Native Hawaiians and Other Pacific Islanders alone or in combination, followed by California (333,893) in 2012. The Native Hawaiians and Other Pacific Islanders represented the largest population portion in Hawaii at 26 percent.

528,991: Number of Native Hawaiians in the U.S. in 2012. The Native Hawaiian population was the largest detailed Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islanders (NHPI) group, followed by Samoan (172,595) and Guamanian or Chamorro (130,223). These estimates represent the number of people who reported a specific detailed NHPI group alone, as well as people who reported that detailed NHPI group in combination with one or more other detailed NHPI groups or another race(s).

INCOME, POVERTY AND HEALTH INSURANCE

$51,322: The median income of households headed by Native Hawaiians and Other Pacific Islanders alone in 2012.

21.3 percent: The poverty rate in 2012 of the Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone population.

18.0 percent: The percentage without health insurance in 2012 for Native Hawaiians and Other Pacific Islanders alone.

EDUCATION

14.8 percent: The percentage of Native Hawaiians and Other Pacific Islanders alone age 25-and-older who had a bachelor's degree or higher in 2012. This compared with 29.1 percent for the total population.

85.4 percent: The percentage of Native Hawaiians and Other Pacific Islanders alone age 25-and-older who had at least a high school diploma in 2012. This percentage is not statistically different from the 86.4 percent of the total population who have at least a high school diploma or the 85.7 percent of Asians with at least a high school diploma.

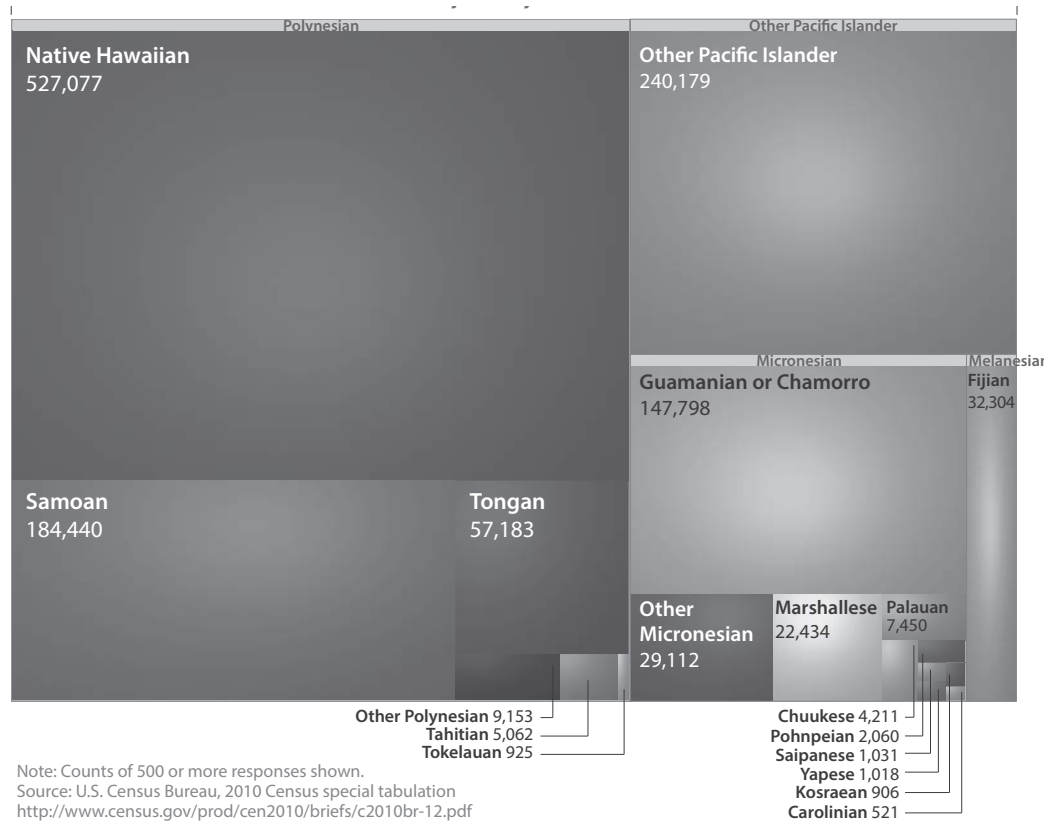
4.7 percent: The percentage of Native Hawaiians and Other Pacific Islanders alone age 25-and-older who had obtained a graduate or professional degree in 2012. This compared with 10.9 percent for the total population this age.

SERVING OUR NATION

32,303: The number of Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone who were military veterans. About one in four Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander veterans was 65 and older.

JOBS

23.2 percent: The proportion of civilian employed Native Hawaiians and Other Pacific Islanders alone 16 and older who worked in management, business, science and arts occupations, such as financial managers, engineers, teachers and registered nurses in 2012. Additionally, 24.6 percent worked in service occupations, while 27.7 percent worked in sales and office occupations; 15.9 percent in production, transportation and material moving occupations; and 8.7 percent in natural resources, construction and maintenance occupation. The 23.2 percent in management business, science and arts occupations, such as financial managers, engineers, teachers and registered nurses occupations is not statistically different from the 24.6 percent in service occupations.



Note: Counts of 500 or more responses shown.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census special tabulation
http://www.census.gov/prod/cen2010/briefs/c2010br-12.pdf

AGE DISTRIBUTION

30.4: The median age of the Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone population in 2012. The median age was 37.4 for the population as a whole.

28.1 percent: Percentage of the Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone population that was under age 18 in 2012, while 6.1 percent was 65 or older. ***(US Census)***

Street Market vendor claims 'flaw' in DPL's land fee

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Herman's Modern Bakery Inc. general manager Juan "Pan" T. Guerrero cited what he describes as "flaws" in the Department of Public Lands' policy with respect to "fair treatment" and application for the use of public lands. Guerrero said the land fee representing 1 percent of Garapan Street Market vendors' gross sales is not fair, days after DPL Secretary Pete A. Tenorio said it is fair.

The DPL secretary said the Garapan Fishing Base where the Thursday night market is held is "prime public land." But because of vendors' efforts in providing added tourist attraction, the land fee is only at 1 percent of vendors' gross sales, DPL said.

Guerrero, however, said "so much for fair treatment," noting that DPL does not charge other users of public lands, including those for the annual Flame Tree Arts Festival, the Tuesday Night Market, the Saturday Farmers' Market, the Fourth of July events, and related events.

"Would you consider these events fair that they too should contribute their 1 percent fee for use of public lands?" Guerrero asked Tenorio in a May 8 letter.

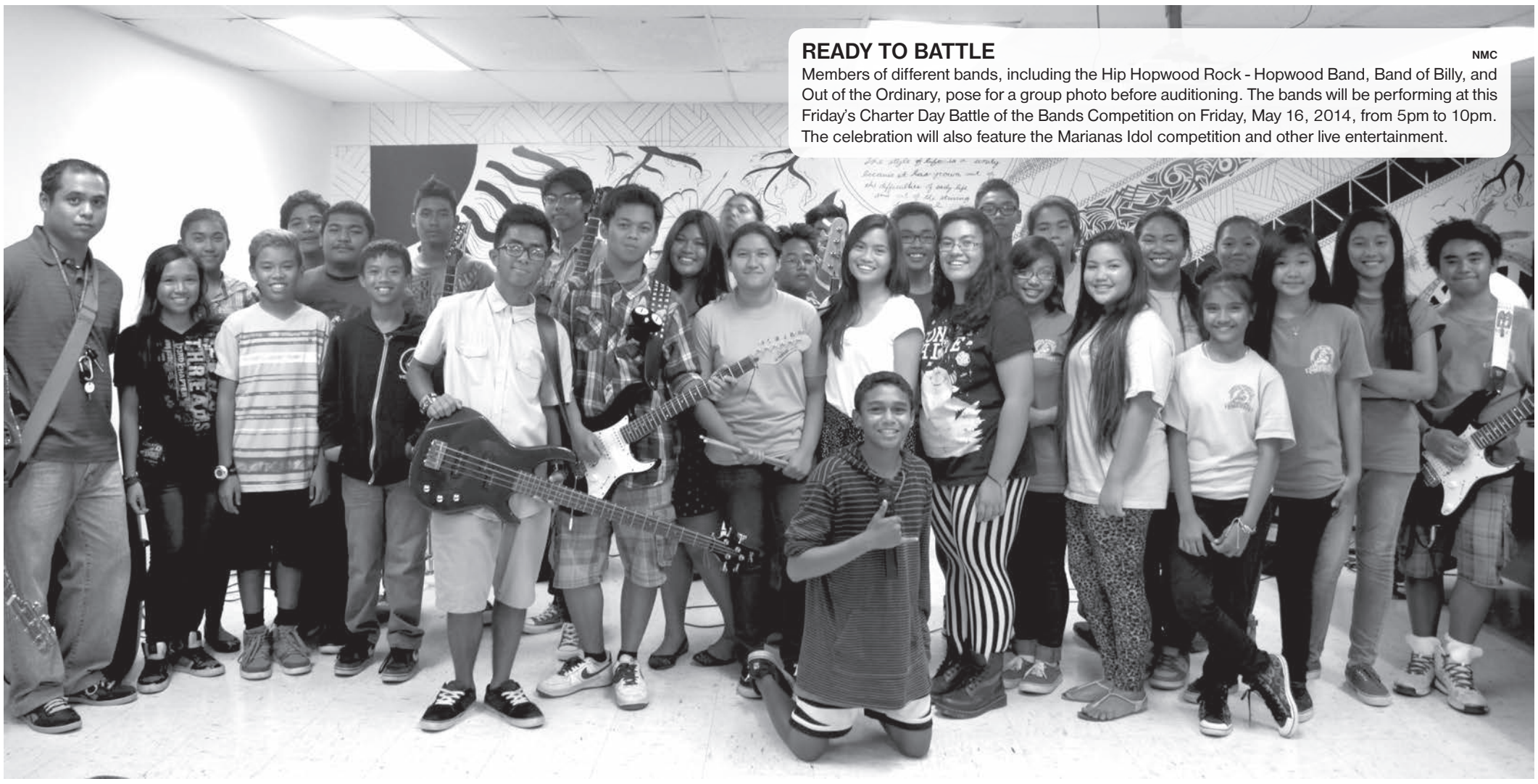
Tenorio acknowledged yesterday that he has seen Guerrero's letter but has yet to respond to it.

Guerrero also told Tenorio that golf courses are on prime land "and yet you personally feel that a 10x10 space used during the Thursday Night Market should pay rent more than golf courses because now you give more thoughts that it should be based on gross revenue collection."

The business asked for "fair treatment" of Garapan Thursday Night Market from DPL.

Tenorio earlier said it is "fair" that the DPL charges the 1 percent gross receipts for each vendor "rather than a fixed fee per month or annually."

He added that the fee that DPL charges vendors is not a new one. The fee used to be 3 percent of vendors' gross revenues, but this was reduced to 1 percent in June 2012.



READY TO BATTLE NMC

Members of different bands, including the Hip Hopwood Rock - Hopwood Band, Band of Billy, and Out of the Ordinary, pose for a group photo before auditioning. The bands will be performing at this Friday's Charter Day Battle of the Bands Competition on Friday, May 16, 2014, from 5pm to 10pm. The celebration will also feature the Marianas Idol competition and other live entertainment.

Paper on Chamorro spiritual resistance to colonial domination now available

Dr. James D. Sellmann, dean of the College of Liberal Arts & Social Sciences, and Dr. Douglas S. Farrer, associate professor of Anthropology, have co-authored a paper titled "Chants of Re-enchantment: Chamorro Spiritual Resistance to Colonial Domination," which was recently published in a special issue of the journal *Social Analysis: The International Journal of Social and Cultural Practice*.

» Paper is published in special issue of international journal and is available online

Farrer also served as the editor of the special issue titled "War Magic and Warrior Religion: Sorcery, Cognition, and Embodiment."

An abstract of the paper states: The Chamorro people inhabit an archipelago known as the Mariana Islands located in the western Pacific Ocean. Seventeenth-century Chamorros took ancestral skulls into warfare against the Spanish in the period of the Spanish conquest. The possession of such skulls manifested profound symbolic power. In the aftermath of the war, the survivors converted to Catholicism, amalgamating their ancient religious practices with that faith. Resistance through the centuries against Spanish, Japanese, and American colonial power has been anchored in Chamorro cultural continuity, albeit in an ostensibly fragmented and augmented form. A site of strategic U.S. military bases, Guam now anticipates further military buildup. War magic and warrior religion are lenses that enable the study of colonial domination where the battle lines fault across military, economic, and political frames toward cultural fronts.

To view the paper and the rest of the journal online, visit *The International Journal of Social and Cultural Practice* website at http://journals.berghahn-books.com/sa. ***(UOG)***

Veteran passes billing and coding specialist exam

A decorated CNMI veteran, Jadine T. Sablan, recently passed the National Healthcare Association examination earning her the title of certified billing & coding specialist. Here, Sablan shares her journey to her success:

"I would like to thank [the Workforce Investment Agency] for the opportunity to gain the necessary skills I need in order to further my career goals in the healthcare industry. After serving two years in the Army, I got pregnant and was honorably discharged in order to provide the necessary care and support for my son in 2012.

"While working at Hyatt Regency Saipan, I continued to take a few college courses in order to continue to work toward my degree in Business. It wasn't until the birth of my daughter in 2013 that I realized the passion I had for the healthcare field and the opportunity to help others. As a single parent, I had to postpone pursuing my education in order to work to provide for my children. After a few months had passed, I changed my degree program toward nursing, and despite a few setbacks, I am continuing to take courses to complete my program. With gaining my [certified coding and billing specialist] certification, I now have the opportunity to get my foot in the door to gain the experience of a hospital setting.

"I am very thankful for the support of my parents, Barbara and John Sablan, who despite their busy schedules, managed to care for my kids while I took my evening classes and last but not least, my children, who continue to motivate me each and every day to overcome the obstacles in order to provide the emotional and financial stability to support them."

The CNMI Department of Labor-Workforce Investment Agency Division provides priority of services to veterans (and certain spouses) who otherwise meet the eligibility requirements for all employment and training programs funded by the U.S. Department of Labor to include funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 as called for in the Jobs for Veterans Act (U.S. Public Law 107-288) (38 USC 4215). ***(DOL)***

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Jadine T. Sablan is joined by her family and Department of Labor Secretary Edith Deleon Guerrero after passing the National Healthcare Association examination that earned her the title of certified billing & coding specialist.

Business

Apple CEO dares to be different from Steve Jobs

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—"Think different" became Apple's creed during the late Steve Jobs' reign as CEO. Now, chief executive Tim Cook is embracing the idea while making decisions that would have seemed crazy to his fabled predecessor.

Apple's pending purchase of headphone maker and streaming music company Beats Electronics for $3.2 billion is just the latest example of Cook's deviation from Jobs, who had so much confidence in his company's innovative powers that he saw little sense in spending large amounts of money on acquisitions.

Cook became chief executive in late August 2011, roughly six weeks before Jobs died. But in a number of ways, he is just beginning to put his own imprint on Apple. Cook is straying from Jobs' cash-hoarding habits by committing to return $130 billion to shareholders through dividends and stock buybacks. He has orchestrated a company stock split and agreed to match employees' charitable contributions up to $10,000 annually.

Under Cook's leadership, Apple also has displayed more social responsibility by working to improve labor conditions in the overseas factories that assemble its devices and taking steps to reduce pollution caused by its data centers and gadgets.

The shift in management philosophy has resulted in an odd twist: Apple Inc.'s pace of innovation has slowed and it now looks more like a conventional company than the corporate rebel Jobs tried to cultivate. Instead of releasing revolutionary gadgets such as the iPod, iPhone and iPad, Apple has been mostly upgrading existing products and figuring out ways to manage its bulging bank account since Cook took over.

AP

In this Oct. 22, 2013 file photo, Apple CEO Tim Cook introduces the new iPad Air in San Francisco.

"Jobs wanted Cook to step out and be different," says longtime technology analyst Rob Enderle. "But I think he wanted (Cook) to do the things that were central to the business, not things that Jobs thought were stupid."

Cook has repeatedly sought to assure investors and customers that Apple remains focused on inventing "insanely great" products, even though the company's last breakthrough, the iPad, came out in April 2010—18 months before Jobs died of cancer.

In the meantime, a host of technology companies have forged ahead with wearable devices, including Google Glass and Samsung's line of Gear smartwatches. Also stealing the innovation spotlight: Internet connected housewares and appliances like the Nest thermostat, whose maker was founded by former Apple designer, Tony Fadell. Google purchased Nest for $3.2 billion in January.

"We've got some great things that we're working on that I'm very, very proud of and very, very excited about," Cook told analysts in a conference call last month.

FCC revising Internet rules after public backlash

WASHINGTON (AP)—Federal Communications Commission Chairman Tom Wheeler is broadening the scope of his proposed open Internet rules and suggesting tougher standards for Internet providers who wish to create paid priority fast lanes on their networks.

According to an FCC official, Wheeler made revisions after the commission received 35,000 public comments -many of them expressing outrage. The FCC first briefed reporters on the proposed rules last month.

Wheeler, a Democrat, also tweaked his proposal after the five-member commission's two other Democrats expressed concern.

"The new draft clearly reflects public input the commission has received," the FCC official said in a statement. "The draft is explicit that the goal is to find the best approach to ensure the Internet remains open and prevent any practices that threaten it."

Among the additions is a provision that would "presume" it to be illegal for an Internet provider to prioritize the traffic of an affiliated service—for example, it would be considered illegal if Comcast Corp. tried to give faster treatment to video streams of its subsidiary network, NBC.

However, an Internet service provider would be allowed to challenge that "presumption," the official said.

In the revised proposal, Wheeler also seeks comment on the possibility of treating broadband providers as so-called "common carriers" like telephone companies, which are subject to greater regulation than Internet providers, under Title II of the Communications Act of 1934.

Lew presses Beijing to ease exchange rate controls

BEIJING (AP)—The U.S. treasury secretary pressed China on Tuesday to ease politically sensitive exchange rate controls and lower barriers to foreign investment.

Beijing in March widened the narrow band in which it allows its yuan to fluctuate against the U.S. dollar. But it retained controls that critics complain keep the yuan undervalued and give its exporters an unfair price advantage.

"It is important that China demonstrate a renewed commitment to move to a more market-determined exchange rate," Treasury Secretary Jacob Lew said in a statement ahead of a meeting with a Chinese vice premier, Wang Yang.

Washington wants a more "open, balanced" trade and investment relationship, Lew said. That would include opening China's markets wider to foreign investment and ensuring equal treatment for all companies, he said.

Lew was due to meet later with China's top economic official, Premier Li Keqiang.

Communist leaders have promised to give entrepreneurs and market forces a bigger role in China's state-dominated economy in hopes of making it more efficient and productive.

Li promised in an annual policy speech in March that the market would be allowed to play a "decisive role" in allocating credit and other resources.

The March 15 widening of the currency trading band doubled the margin by which the yuan is allowed to fluctuate each day against the dollar, though to a still relatively narrow 2 percent.

Beijing reported a $260 billion global trade surplus last year, a $30 billion increase over 2012 and among the largest ever recorded by any country.

Nation

Snow in Rockies but Western drought continues

DENVER (AP)—A powerful spring storm that dumped more than 3 feet of snow in some parts of the Rockies closed a major national trucking route for more than 24 hours, snapped power lines and drew skiers to the slopes of Colorado's only remaining open ski area. Just to the south, some Arizona communities are rationing water because of drought, and to the west, drought-parched California is bracing for another week of hot weather that could fuel more wildfires. Welcome to springtime in the West, where May snowstorms are coinciding with the start to the region's wildfire season—and doing little to alleviate the overall regional drought.

SNOW: Spring is normally the wettest time of year in the Rockies. While snowfall is common in the mountains in May, significant snowfall at lower elevations like Denver in May only occurs every five or 10 years, Colorado state climatologist Nolan Doesken said. Denver got between 4 and 7 inches of typical heavy, wet spring snow. While much of it didn't stick to the warm ground, it weighed down trees just sprouting spring leaves and led gardeners to cover flowers and plants with plastic sheets and buckets. A freeze is expected to follow before warmer weather returns Tuesday.

TRAVEL: The storm shut down Interstate 80 through southern Wyoming and into Nebraska for more than 24 hours. Some drivers abandoned their vehicles while stranded truckers filled up rest area parking lots along the highway, which averages more than 6,000 trucks per day. Snowy conditions appear to have contributed to at least one fatal crash southwest of Denver. The snow caused minimal problems at Denver International Airport, canceling about 60 of its 1,600 daily flights and delaying both arrivals and departures in the morning. The airport also briefly lost power, stalling some escalators and elevators. Airport spokeswoman Julie Smith said a backup generator spared the airport any major problems.

DROUGHT: Much of the West remains in some stage of drought, with the worst conditions in Southern California and the Southern Plains and Texas Panhandle. Gusty Santa Ana winds are raising the fire danger in California, where temperatures are expected to top 100 degrees in drought-stricken inland areas this week. A wildfire on Sunday on the Panhandle's dry, dusty plains destroyed 75 homes in a mobile home community. Conditions vary greatly within states. While Colorado's overall amount of snow in the mountains—the state's main water supply—is close to average this year, the snowpack in its southwestern corner is way below normal and severe drought continues to afflict farms and ranches in the southeast. Fire officials are predicting a normal wildfire season for Colorado, which would be an improvement over recent years in which blazes have destroyed hundreds of houses.

SKIING: After lots of snow in March and April, many Colorado ski resorts added extra days of skiing but only one resort is still open. After getting 17 inches of new snow in the last three days, Arapahoe Basin says conditions are better than they were in February. Spokeswoman Leigh Hierholzer said about 2,000 people were on the slopes, apparently undeterred by slippery roads or the start of the work week.

Gay couples marry in Arkansas; most clerks sit out

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (AP)—More than 200 gay couples obtained Arkansas marriage licenses Monday after a judge tossed out the state's 10-year-old same-sex marriage ban, but only at a handful of courthouses as an overwhelming majority of county clerks in this part of the Bible Belt said they first wanted the state Supreme Court to weigh in.

Attorney General Dustin McDaniel—who recently announced his personal support for same-sex marriage rights but said he would defend the law—filed paperwork Monday to at least temporarily preserve the ban, which voters approved by a 3-to-1 margin.

In other states that have seen gay-marriage bans overturned, judges either issued stays with their orders or state lawyers sought them with some immediacy. McDaniel's office requested a stay from the local judge Friday night but had to wait until the full court record was available Monday before going to the state Supreme Court, under the justices' rules. Justices gave both sides until midday Tuesday to file arguments.

Seventy of the state's 75 clerks have not granted licenses. A handful of clerks, including one who granted licenses Monday, filed a stay request saying the judge's decision didn't address a law that threatens clerks with fines for "wrongful issuance of a marriage license."

With the weddings Saturday and Monday, Arkansas became the 18th state to allow same-sex marriages, and the first among former states of the Confederacy.

ACROSS THE NATION

Authorities: New Hampshire officer shot to death

BRENTWOOD, N.H. (AP)—A New Hampshire police officer was shot to death after he responded to a domestic disturbance at a home that later exploded and burned, authorities said Monday. The gunman was presumed dead in the ensuing blaze. Attorney General Joseph Foster said late Monday night 48-year-old Stephen Arkell of Brentwood was shot to death when he answered the call in a suburban neighborhood for people older than 55. After the shooting, the house burst into flames. A massive explosion blew the front off the house and within an hour, it was leveled. Foster said Michael Nolan, 47, the son of the homeowner, is the suspected gunman. He is presumed dead.

Texas Panhandle wildfire destroys 156 structures

FRITCH, Texas (AP)—Firefighters had stopped the spread of flames in a wildfire in the Texas Panhandle and were focusing Monday night on hotspots and buildings still smoldering 24 hours after they first turned their hoses on the blaze. No injuries were reported in the fire, but hundreds of people from a 4-square-mile area around Lake Meredith, between the towns of Sanford and Fritch, evacuated their homes Sunday afternoon. Some moved to an ad hoc shelter in a high school gymnasium, others to the sanctuary of a local church serving the rural communities some 30 miles northeast of Amarillo. Dozens of pets were taken in by a local animal hospital. The fire destroyed 156 structures, at least 89 of which were homes, Texas A&M Forest Service spokesman Troy Duchneaux said late Monday. About 2,100 people remain evacuated from roughly 1,300 homes, he said.

Asia

Philippines charges Chinese caught in disputed sea

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—The Philippines charged nine Chinese fishermen Monday with poaching more than 500 endangered sea turtles at a disputed South China Sea shoal despite China's demand for them to be immediately freed.

Prosecutor Allen Ross Rodriguez said two other arrested Chinese were minors and would be sent home. The nine Chinese have been charged with violating two provisions of the Philippine fisheries code, including illegally harvesting 555 endangered turtles, before a special environmental court in western Palawan province.

Police arrested the fishermen and seized the boat that was allegedly laden with the giant turtles, most of them dead, last week at the disputed Half Moon Shoal. The arrests sparked the latest territorial spat between the Asian neighbors in the increasingly volatile South China Sea.

China has pressed the Philippine government to free the fishermen and the boat, saying they were apprehended in Chinese territorial waters. Beijing warned Manila not to take any more "provocative actions so as to avoid further damage to bilateral relations."

AP

In this photo taken Saturday, May 10, 2014, a Philippine National Police Maritime Group officer holds a dead green sea turtle as he unloads them from the Chinese vessel ?Qiongqionghai 09063 at Honda Bay Wharf in Puerto Princesa city, Western Philippines.

The Department of Foreign Affairs in Manila reiterated that the Chinese were arrested within the Philippines' exclusive economic zone, the 230 mile (370 kilometer) stretch of sea where the country has exclusive right to fish and exploit undersea gas and oil deposits under the U.N. Convention on the Law of the Sea.

Five Filipino fishermen were caught separately near Half Moon Shoal, about 110 kilometers (70 miles) from Palawan province, with about 70 turtles in their boat. Criminal complaints have also been filed against them for illegally catching the turtles, but they sought the services of Filipino lawyers and were not immediately indicted.

Report: Vietnam, Chinese ships fire water cannons

HANOI, Vietnam (AP)—A Vietnamese patrol boat and several Chinese vessels blasted each other with water cannons Monday near an oil rig recently positioned by Beijing in disputed waters, Vietnamese state media reported, in the latest incident in a dangerous standoff between the two nations.

The Tuoi Tre newspaper said it was the first time that Vietnamese vessels have responded to aggressive Chinese actions close to the deep sea rig, which was positioned May 1 in an area of the South China Sea claimed by Beijing and Hanoi. Both sides have accused the other of ramming ships. Vietnam has presented a video showing Chinese ships hitting its vessels.

In Washington, Secretary of State John Kerry said Monday the U.S. and other nations involved in navigating in the South and East China Seas were deeply concerned about the "aggressive" Chinese action.

"We want to see a code of conduct, we want to see this resolved peacefully through the law of the sea, through arbitration, through any other means but not direct confrontation and aggressive action," Kerry said before a meeting at the State Department with Singapore's Foreign Minister K. Shanmugam.

Tuoi Tre newspaper, which had two journalists on the ship, said the Vietnamese vessel displayed a banner in Chinese urging Beijing to withdraw the rig.

Late Sunday, another newspaper quoted the coast guard chief as saying China had widened an exclusion zone around the rig to a radius of 10 miles (16 kilometers) and had deployed fighter jets to fly low over Vietnamese ships.

Vietnam has reacted with fury to the Chinese deployment, part of a campaign by Beijing to slowly cement its extensive sovereignty claims in the South China Sea, disregarding the anger of smaller Southeast Asian nations such as Vietnam and the Philippines which have rival claims.

Vietnam has demanded that China pull back the rig. China has refused, saying the waters are its "inherent territory." On Sunday, thousands of Vietnamese protesters took to the streets in Hanoi chanting anti-China slogans. For the first time, the protests were covered by Vietnamese state media, indicating that the authoritarian government supported them.

Prime Minster Nguyen Tan Dung said China had taken an "extremely dangerous action that has been directly endangering peace, stability, security, and marine safety."

ASIAN BRIEFS

Taliban kill 21 at start of Afghan spring fighting

JALALABAD, Afghanistan (AP)—The Taliban unleashed a wave of attacks that killed 21 people around the country, making a show of strength to start the spring fighting season. The annual surge in violence poses a new test for Afghan security forces, who for the first time will face it largely on their own as international combat forces prepare to withdraw. Spring each year brings an escalation in fighting in Afghanistan with the end of snowy winter weather, which hampers movement. The melting of the snows opens up mountain passes allowing militant forces to move in from refuges in neighboring Pakistan.

Protesters march to Thai prime minister's compound

BANGKOK (AP)—Thailand's anti-government protesters left their main camp Monday to resettle near Parliament and the prime minister's vacated office compound, where their leader pledged to set up his new office in a direct challenge to the government's authority. The country's new caretaker prime minister, Niwattumrong Boonsongpaisan, meanwhile worked at a makeshift suburban outpost, underlining the government's weakness. He reiterated calls for a July election and said he and his Cabinet were committed to finding a peaceful solution to the country's political crisis. Thailand's grinding 6-month political crisis has deepened since last week, when the Constitutional Court removed Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra for nepotism in a case that many viewed as politically motivated. Nine Cabinet ministers were also dismissed.

World

Boko Haram demands release of fighters for girls

LAGOS, Nigeria (AP)—Under the guns of their captors, dozens of barefoot girls sat huddled together wearing gray Muslim veils as they chanted Quranic verses in Arabic. Some Christians among them said they had converted to Islam.

"I swear to almighty Allah, you will not see them again until you release our brothers that you have captured," the leader of the Boko Haram terrorist network threatened, an assault rifle slung across his chest.

A video released by the group Monday offered the first public glimpse of what it claimed were some of the nearly 300 Nigerian schoolgirls kidnapped a month ago. The girls' plight has spurred a global movement to secure their freedom.

It is not known how many suspected Boko Haram members are detained by security forces. Hundreds were killed last month when leader Abubakar Shekau's fighters stormed the military's main northeastern barracks in Maiduguri, the terror group's birthplace and the headquarters of a year-old military state of emergency to put down the 5-year-old Islamic uprising.

AP

In this photo taken from video by Nigeria's Boko Haram terrorist network, Monday May 12, 2014 shows the alleged missing girls abducted from the northeastern town of Chibok.

In the video, two of the girls were singled out for questioning.

"Why have you become a Muslim?" one girl, who looked to be in her early teens, was asked.

"The reason why I became a Muslim is because the path we are on is not the right path," the girl said, nervously shifting her body from side to side, her eyes darting back and forth.

"We should enter the right path so that Allah will be happy with us," added the girl, who said her name had been changed to Halima because she had converted from Christianity to Islam. Like the other girls, she wore a bulky gray hijab that covered her body from head to toe, revealing only her face.

A second girl, who appeared to be in her mid-teens, was asked if she or any of the others had been mistreated. No, she said, adding that they had experienced nothing "except righteousness."

Insurgents in eastern Ukraine declare independence

DONETSK, Ukraine (AP)—Pro-Moscow insurgents in eastern Ukraine declared independence Monday and sought to join Russia, undermining upcoming presidential elections, strengthening the Kremlin's hand and putting pressure on Kiev to hold talks with the separatists following a referendum on self-rule.

Russia signaled it has no intention of subsuming eastern Ukraine the way it annexed Crimea in March. Instead, Moscow is pushing to include eastern regions in negotiations on Ukraine's future—suggesting that Russia prefers a political rather than a military solution to its worst standoff with the West since the Cold War.

Such talks are central to a potential path toward peace outlined Monday by the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe. The plan laid out by Swiss President Didier Burkhalter calls on all sides to refrain from violence and urges immediate amnesty, talks on decentralization and the status of the Russian language. That's a key complaint of insurgents who have seized power in eastern regions and clashed with government troops and police.

But it's up to the Ukrainian government to take the next step.

Acting Prime Minister Arseniy Yatsenyuk pledged to hold a dialogue with Ukraine's east. But he gave no specifics and stopped short of addressing Sunday's referendum and the declarations of independence in the pro-Moscow regions of Donetsk and Luhansk.

"We would like to launch the broad national dialogue with the east, center, the west, and all of Ukraine," Yatsenyuk told a news conference in Brussels, adding that the agenda for talks should include changes to the constitution that would give more powers to the regions.

Ukraine's central government and the West say the Kremlin has encouraged weeks of unrest in eastern Ukraine in a possible attempt to grab more land.

EU adds 13 people, 2 firms to Ukraine list

BRUSSELS (AP)—European Union foreign ministers added 13 people Monday to their visa ban and asset freeze list over Ukraine's crisis but are not expected to decide whether to impose tough economic measures on Russia before Ukraine's May 25 elections, officials said.

The 28 EU ministers also said in a statement that two firms in Russia-annexed Crimea would be hit with asset freezes later Monday.

The ministers agreed to expand the scope of visa bans and asset freezes to target people undermining stability in Ukraine or obstructing international organizations there.

The Obama administration has its own sanctions list that targets several close associates of Russian President Vladimir Putin and their assets for Russia's actions in Ukraine.

France's European affairs minister, Harlem Desir, said additional EU sanctions may be imposed if "actions and provocations" hamper the Ukraine presidential election campaign. He said the 13 people targeted Monday included "Ukrainian separatists and Russian officials."

The targets of the new sanctions include Russia's top prosecutor in Crimea; the commander of Russian airborne troops; a member of Putin's staff, and people identified by the EU as leaders of the armed pro-Moscow revolt in eastern Ukraine.

A total of 61 people are now on the EU's sanctions list due to Ukraine.

The two companies sanctioned, Chernomorneftgaz and Fedosia, have been effectively confiscated by the new leaders in Crimea following a resolution by the pro-Russian local parliament that proclaimed the appropriation of their assets, the EU said.

Campus Life

Saipan International School scores in 2014 Mathcourt

Saipan International School's Mathcourt winners. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The 2014 CNMI Mathcourt winners. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Congratulations go out to Saipan International School Mathcourt students for their outstanding performance in the final round of Mathcourt competition on Saturday, May 10, at San Antonio Elementary School.

In the team round, Hyun Jae Park, Christina Kim, Daniele Colombo, and Arabella Loste bagged the silver medal. Hyun Jae Park also finished in 8th place overall and is an alternate on Team CNMI. He has a chance to go to Houston, Texas, in a few weeks to compete with Team CNMI in a Math League competition against students from all over the United States.

A few weeks ago, first grader Dee Jenkins nabbed the gold medal for the K-1st grade competition. Over 30 Mathcourt ribbons were won by SIS students in 2014. ***(PR)***

Some members of TEAM CNMI. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

GUNG donates computers to Southern High School

SANTA RITA, Guam—The English department classrooms at Southern High School will now enjoy the benefits of technology upgrades thanks to the generous donation of computer systems which were presented by the Guam Air National Guard.

The Guam Air Guard's contribution of 52 Hewlett-Packard Desktop Computers, valued at approximately $25,000, will assist the students in writing and research as well as in meeting their technology goals in the classroom.

Maj. Gen. Benny M. Paulino, The Adjutant General for the Guam National Guard, said he was pleased to see the computers that were slated to be turned in to the Defense Reutilization and Marketing Office be put to good use at schools instead.

"Computer knowledge and use is a critical skill for today's world. To be able to equip our children with these working computers that were being replaced, is a win-win situation, helping our education system, and assisting in the learning and development of our children," Paulino said.

School principal Rosalin Meeks was overwhelmed with the donation and thanked the National Guard. She also pointed out that English teacher Patricia Duenas and assistant principal Geraldine Pablo worked with the National Guard through the Computers for Learning program to make the donation a reality.

"It's nice to have been selected because the southern schools are often forgotten. We really appreciate all the work they did to not only donate computes, but ensure that they were all overhauled and loaded with updated and working operating systems. They did a lot for the students and the school and for that, we are very grateful," said Duenas.

Present for the donation were Southern High School faculty members, teachers and students as well as representatives from the Governor's Office and members of the Guam National Guard. ***(PR)***

COLOR GUARD DUTIES CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Manta Ray Battalion performed color guard duties at the 2014 March Against Cancer during the opening ceremony on May 1, 2014, around 6pm. From left cadet Capt. Bandales Lizel, cadet Capt. Ongelungel Ayana, cadet 1st Lt. Mafnas Danielle, and cadet 2nd Lt. Alipio Stephanie. These same cadets also competed in the Golden Bear West Coast Drill Meet and won third place in the Novice Color Guard.

Life & Style

Hotel decries video leak of Jay Z, Beyonce sister

NEW YORK (AP)—The Standard Hotel in New York City says it is investigating the leak of a security video that appears to show Beyonce's sister, Solange, attacking Jay Z.

Asked about the video on Monday by The Associated Press, the hotel issued a statement saying it is "shocked and disappointed that there was a clear breach of our security system."

TMZ posted the minute-long video Monday and said it was shot last week inside a Standard Hotel elevator. It appears to show Solange attacking Jay Z in Beyonce's presence. A security guard intervenes. There is no audio.

The hotel says the leaked video violates the confidentiality it provides customers.

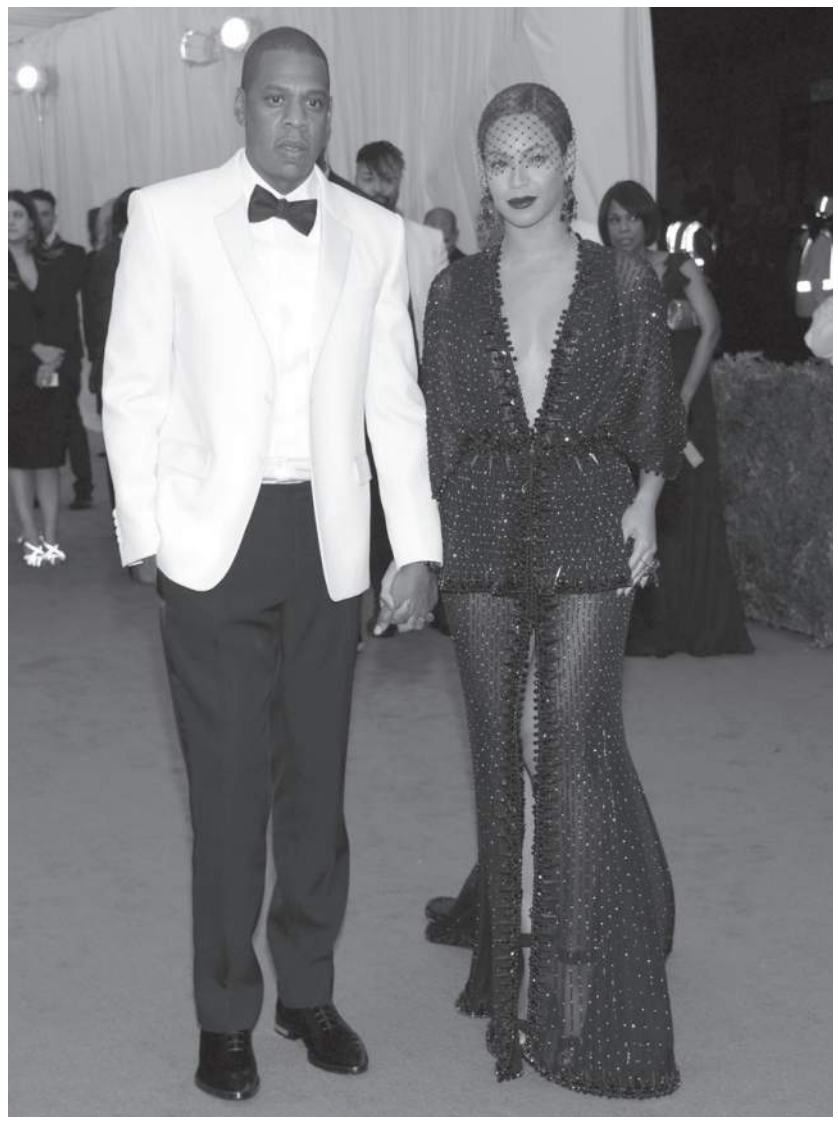
"We are investigating with the utmost urgency the circumstances surrounding the situation and, as is our customary practice, will discipline and prosecute the individuals involved to our fullest capacity."

The celebrity site posted a longer, three-minute version of the video later Monday. Representatives for Beyonce, Jay Z and Solange didn't immediately reply to emails seeking comment.

The footage shows the performers in the outfits they wore to the Met Gala last week.

Jay Z, 44, and Beyonce, 32, were married in 2008. They will kick-off their co-headlining "On the Run Tour" on June 25 in Miami.

Solange, 27, recently performed at the Coachella Valley Music and Arts Festival, where Beyonce joined her onstage.



AP

This May 5, 2014 file photo shows Jay Z, left, and Beyonce at The Metropolitan Museum of Art's Costume Institute benefit gala celebrating "Charles James: Beyond Fashion" in New York.

Wurst's Eurovision win shows pop still political

AP

Austrian singer Conchita Wurst attends a press conference in Vienna, Austria Sunday May 11, 2014.

LONDON (AP)—It's the beard that divided a continent.

The victory of whiskered drag queen Conchita Wurst in the Eurovision Song Contest had celebrities from Nigella Lawson to Russell Brand posting bearded selfies on the Internet in tribute—and Russian men snapping clean-shaven pictures in protest.

For millions of viewers, the annual Eurovision show is a cheesy music competition renowned for its camp, kitsch and electro beats. But the nation-based contest is also a potent mix of patriotism and politics in bubblegum wrapping.

Wurst's win has exposed a divide between Europe's progressives and conservatives that British tabloid The Sun cheekily described Monday as the "Furred World War."

The statuesque brunette with the soaring voice of a diva and a full dark beard called her first-place finish in Saturday's contest a victory for tolerance and respect. Austrian President Heinz Fischer said it was "not just a victory for Austria, but above all for diversity and tolerance in Europe."

But Russian Deputy Prime Minister Dmitry Rogozin tweeted that Eurovision had shown the true face of European integration: "a bearded girl." On social media, a variety of Russian men posted shaving-foam selfies alongside slogans such as "Get shaved, don't be like a woman!"

Pro-Kremlin legislator Olga Batalina said the Eurovision victory proved the need for Russia's contentious law banning so-called gay propaganda.

Batalina—deputy head of the family and maternity issues committee of the Duma, the lower house of Russia's parliament—said Wurst's victory showed "it's not enough to have a talent and a good voice to win Eurovision; you also need to reject your nature, identity and traditions." She chalked the win up to "aggressive and persistent" gay propaganda.

That may sound like a lot of rhetoric over a talent show but Eurovision has always been more than a simple singing contest.

Founded in 1956, the competition pits European nations against one another in pursuit of pop music glory. It has helped launch the careers of stars including Sweden's ABBA—victors in 1974 with "Waterloo"—and Canada's Celine Dion, who won for Switzerland in 1988.

But it is more generally loved, and mocked, for its parade of cheesy tunes from quirky performers. The live telecast is watched by some 180 million people and has a particularly strong gay following. It also faces perennial accusations of regional block-voting and geopolitical games.

"(Eurovision is) the one forum in which countries can pass judgment on each other without repercussions," said Paul Jordan, a political scientist who did his Ph.D. on Eurovision.

Jordan said voting for Wurst "allowed gay fans their revenge on what is happening in Russia."

"The song and performance were very strong, but other things were going on," he said.

Western anger at Russia over the crisis in Ukraine also spilled over onto the Eurovision stage.

Eurovision winners are decided by the votes of viewers and national juries from 37 participating countries. During Saturday's final in Copenhagen, Russia was loudly booed by the audience each time its act—teenage twins Anastasia and Maria Tolmachevy—won points. Russia, which came 7th, got most of its support from neighbors, and gave its maximum points to Armenia, Azerbaijan and Belarus, all former Soviet republics.

Politics, both personal and international, has often intruded on Eurovision.

Transsexual Israeli singer Dana International sparked protests by ultra-Orthodox Jews in her homeland in 1998 but went on to win the contest.

Lebanon withdrew from Eurovision in 2005 after its national broadcaster refused to show the Israeli entry.

Georgia pulled out in 2009 after its song "We Don't Wanna Put In"—a dig at Russian leader Vladimir Putin—was judged excessively political. Georgia and Russia had fought a war the year before.

Azerbaijan's turn hosting the show in 2012 drew protests about the country's human rights record. Last year, Russian politicians alleged vote-rigging after Azerbaijan uncharacteristically awarded no points to Russia. Voting rules have since been changed in a bid to stamp out cheating.

Jordan said despite the divisions it revealed, Eurovision was a unique European institution.

"It gets people talking about what it means to be European," he said. "It captures people's imaginations in a way I don't think the European elections do."

And for all the noisy rhetoric from some Russians, official results showed that the bearded Wurst was the third most-popular act with that nation's Eurovision voters.

Judge expresses concerns over Casey Kasem's safety

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A judge on Monday ordered an investigation into the whereabouts of Casey Kasem after an attorney for the ailing radio personality's wife said the former "Top 40" host had been removed from Los Angeles without his children's knowledge.

Superior Court Judge Daniel S. Murphy ordered a court investigator and adult protective services to find out where Kasem is being treated and report back to the court. Kasem, 82, suffers from advanced Parkinson's disease, can no longer speak and has been in various medical facilities chosen by his wife, Jean Kasem.

Kasem

Casey Kasem's children have complained that they have been unable to see their father in accordance with an agreement with their stepmother. Daughter Kerri Kasem had sought a temporary conservatorship and was appointed her father's temporary caretaker on Monday. Her attorney, Troy Martin, said the family believes the entertainer has been taken to an Indian reservation in Washington state.

Murphy's order came after Craig Marcus, an attorney who appeared on Jean Kasem's behalf at Monday's hearing, said he did not know where the radio personality was but that he was "no longer in the United States."

The revelation brought stunned protests from Murphy and two of Casey Kasem's daughters, two of the entertainer's three children from a previous marriage.

"I have no idea where he is," Marcus said.

"Your statements concern me even more," the judge told Marcus, who declined to comment after the hearing.

Marcus said in court that Jean Kasem had every right to move her husband as she saw fit. He argued that Murphy no longer had jurisdiction over Casey Kasem because he had been moved, but the judge rejected the argument.

Murphy appointed a doctor to look into Casey Kasem's care and ordered a court-appointed attorney to find out his whereabouts as soon as possible.

Casey Kasem gained fame with his radio music countdown shows, "American Top 40" and "Casey's Top 40," and was the voice of Shaggy in the cartoon "Scooby Doo."

As temporary conservator, Kerri Kasem will have access to her father's medical records and other reports that have previously been sealed by court order.

Kerri Kasem's case is the second one opened by one of the former host's children to try to gain access to their father and have some oversight over his care. A previous case by daughter Julie Kasem was dismissed after she reached a settlement with her stepmother, but the daughter said Monday that agreement has been breached.

In a court filing last week, Kerri Kasem's attorneys wrote that the entertainer has been repeatedly moved without warning and his children have been unable to see him. The complaint accused Jean Kasem of elder abuse by isolating her husband from his family.

"We've been troubled for a long time," Kerri Kasem said after Monday's court hearing. She said Murphy's orders will ensure that the truth about her father's care comes out.

"Justice has been served today," she said.

Details emerge about new Harry Potter ride

ORLANDO, Florida (AP)—The centerpiece of the new Harry Potter-themed area at Universal Orlando Resort will take visitors into Gringotts bank to help retrieve a magical object and re-create a scene from the wildly popular book and movie series.

Universal executives announced Tuesday that the ride will be called "Harry Potter and the Escape from Gringotts." It re-creates a scene from the final Harry Potter book and film.

"It takes you into one of the great moments of the fiction," said Mark Woodbury, president of Universal Creative.

The ride and the themed area—called the Wizarding World of Harry Potter-Diagon Alley—will open in the summer. It will double the size of the Harry Potter landscape in the park.

Among the features of the new ride: a 60-foot (18-meter) dragon atop Gringotts Wizarding Bank, a labyrinth of Gringotts vaults, and a marble hall with goblins. Riders will be taken into a world as part of a quest to retrieve a magical object to defeat Lord Voldemort.

AP

This computer image released by NBCUniversal Orlando shows a setting for the ride that will be the centerpiece for the new Harry Potter-themed area at Universal Orlando Resort theme park.

The ride will use 360-degree themed sets, digital high-definition animation, 3-D projection systems and live special effects.

Woodbury said the goal was to use new technology and intensely detailed storytelling to thrill Harry Potter fans and entice those who haven't read the books or seen the movies.

The new themed area will be located at Universal Studios Park. It will be tied to the original Wizarding World of Harry Potter area at Universal's Islands of Adventure via the Hogwarts Express train.

During the train ride, riders will spot characters and magical creatures from the book. Among them: Hagrid on a flying motorbike, the Weasley twins on brooms, and the Knight Bus in London traffic.

Universal's team worked with a group from the Harry Potter films on the new themed area.

If fans want to see both parks, a two-park ticket will be required. For adults, a two-park ticket for one day costs $136; for children, it costs $130.

Opponent of Clay Aiken in primary dies in accident

ASHEBORO, North Carolina (AP)—A textile entrepreneur who was locked in a too-close-to-call Democratic primary with former "American Idol" singer Clay Aiken for a U.S. House seat from North Carolina died Monday, his family said.

Keith Crisco, 71, died "after an accidental fall" at his home in Asheboro, about 65 miles (105 kilometers) west of Raleigh, according to a statement from his family.

"He was a remarkable man with a tremendous dedication to his family and to public service," the statement said.

Aiken was leading Crisco by fewer than 400 votes after the contest last Tuesday.

If enough new votes turn up to make Crisco the winner, local Democrats will select a new nominee, state elections board spokesman Josh Lawson said. If not, Aiken will be the nominee, he said. The vote is expected to be certified Thursday.

Crisco

The winner will face Republican incumbent Renee Ellmers in November in the Republican-leaning 2nd Congressional District.

Crisco had been North Carolina's top business recruiter for four years under former Gov. Beverly Perdue, who left office in 2013. He grew up on a dairy farm in North Carolina, he said in an interview last month.

Crisco went on to receive a master's of business administration from Harvard University in 1968, then returned to North Carolina to work for textile giant Burlington Industries. In the early 1970s, Crisco was selected as a White House Fellow, and he spent a year in President Richard Nixon's Commerce Department.

"Keith came from humble beginnings. No matter how high he rose - to Harvard, to the White House and to the Governor's Cabinet - he never forgot where he came from," Aiken said in a statement. "He was a gentleman, a good and honorable man and an extraordinary public servant. I was honored to know him."

In 1986, he and partners formed Asheboro Elastics to produce elastics for home furnishings and medical and industrial uses. He joked that the company's mission was to "hold your underwear up." The company was renamed AEC Narrow Fabrics and is now run by hired executives, his sons and a son-in-law.

Aiken came to fame in 2003 when he was the runner-up on the TV show "American Idol." He's released several albums, including 2010's "Tried and True."

Fox unveils schedule, cutting back 'Idol'

NEW YORK (AP)—Fox will cut "American Idol" to one night for several weeks next spring, part of a reset for a struggling network that will have 12 new series in the coming year including the much-awaited "Batman" prequel "Gotham."

The network announced Monday that it will also break up its Sunday animation block by moving in the critical favorite "Brooklyn Nine Nine." Two of its Tuesday-night comedies will be replaced by an unscripted show that imagines people setting up a new society in an undeveloped area.

"American Idol" will air for some 37 hours next winter and spring, compared to the 50-plus hours that have been running for years, Fox entertainment chief Kevin Reilly said. After the initial auditions, the series will probably air a two-hour show once a week. The show's decline from television's biggest phenomenon to just another moderately successful series, combined with a failure to mint new hits, made this season a tough one for Fox.

"`Idol' is not going to come back to be the ratings champion it once was," Reilly said. "But we believe the show can be on for many years to come."

He compared it to CBS' "Survivor," once a sensation but now a dependable, mid-level hit—coincidentally one that frequently beats "Idol" in the ratings.

The "Idol" decline meant fewer people have tuned in live to Fox this season. With network TV's youngest audience, Fox is also hit harder than its rivals in the switch to other forms of viewing that doesn't show up in traditional overnight Nielsen ratings—streaming online, DVR usage and video on demand, Reilly said.

Five of Fox's new series already have a place on Fox's fall schedule, with the rest to come later in the season. "Gotham" has the biggest buzz—Fox says a trailer online has already been seen 6 million times—and will air Monday nights. It follows a 12-year-old future caped crusader in a city teeming with crime. Although Jada Pinkett Smith will play a new character, crime boss Fish Mooney, most of the show's characters will be familiar to followers of the comic book series.

The unscripted "Utopia" will air two episodes a week in the fall, on Tuesdays and Fridays.

Other new series to premiere in the fall are the youthful soap "Red Band Society," a 10-episode series "Gracepoint," based on the British drama "Broadchurch," and "Mulaney," starring John Mulaney as a struggling standup comic.

Porsche sued over crash that killed Paul Walker

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The widow of the man who was driving a Porsche sports car that crashed and killed "Fast & Furious" actor Paul Walker sued the automaker on Monday, claiming design flaws caused both men to die in a fiery crash in November.

The wrongful death lawsuit by Kristine M. Rodas says her husband was driving at 55 mph (88.5 kph)—not at unsafe speeds as law enforcement investigators determined—before it crashed last year. Roger W. Rodas was driving a 2005 Porsche Carrera GT capable of speeds more than 200 mph (320 kph), but his wife's lawsuit says the vehicle lacked a proper crash cage and safety features in the gas tank that would have saved both men's lives.

The lawsuit also contends that a failure in the car's suspension system forced it to careen out of control and strike three trees while driving down a street in Santa Clarita, California.

Walker

"The Carrera GT was unsafe for its intended use by reason of defects in its manufacture, design, testing, component and constituents, so that it would not safely serve its purpose," the lawsuit states.

The lawsuit seeks unspecified damages from Porsche Cars North America, which did not immediately return email messages seeking comment.

Kristine Rodas' attorney, Mark Geragos, said he hired the top experts in the country to evaluate the wreckage and crash. The results, he said, were an unbiased look at the accident that refutes an official investigation that determined the sports car was speeding at up to 94 mph (151 kph) when it crashed.

The results of an investigation by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department and California Highway Patrol were released in March and concluded that it was unsafe speed and not mechanical problems that caused the crash. That investigation was aided by engineers from Porsche, who evaluated the wreckage of the rare car.

The differing opinions on the crash will likely be a part of any trial over the lawsuit, which could take years to resolve.

Roger Rodas was trained as a race car driver, according to his wife's lawsuit. He left behind two young children upon his death.

Walker, the star of the "Fast & Furious" film franchise, co-owned an auto racing team with Rodas named Always Evolving.

Walker's death occurred on a break in the filming of "Fast & Furious 7," and the actor's two brothers are helping complete action scenes in the film. The film's release has been delayed until April 2015.

NBC series has joke about school massacres

AP

Actress Debra Messing attends the NBC Network 2014 Upfront presentation at the Javits Center on Monday, May 12, 2014, in New York.

NEW YORK (AP)—School massacres apparently will be fodder for humor in a new NBC prime-time fall series.

During NBC's schedule preview to advertisers on Monday, the network ran a clip of "The Mysteries of Laura," a new series that begins this fall starring Debra Messing. Messing plays a homicide detective, and one scene shows her recoiling after rushing into a schoolroom where the walls and windows are smeared in bright red.

She says: "This is a depraved, unspeakable act."

Then comes the scene's punch line: her character's two children, also covered in red, had gotten a little wild with paint during an art project.

'One Big Happy' cast credits DeGeneres for laughs

NEW YORK (AP)—When Ellen DeGeneres decided to executive produce a new comedy for NBC, she clearly didn't take the job lightly.

In fact, the cast said Monday at NBC's presentation to advertisers that she warmed up the audience before the taping of the pilot.

"Ellen did, I'd say about 10 minutes of warming up the crowd," recalled actor Nick Zano. "We hear Ellen doing standup and the crowd roaring and we're like, 'Damn ... I hope we're as funny as that,'" he joked. "She set the bar high and we just had to come close to matching."

"One Big Happy" is about a straight guy (Zano) who decides to have a baby with his gay best friend (Elisha Cuthbert.) The plan gets complicated when Zano's character falls in love with someone else, a British woman played by Kelly Brook, and marries her so she can stay in the country.

Cuthbert hopes she does her character justice and makes DeGeneres proud.

"I'm playing a lesbian and she is the coolest lesbian on the planet."

AP

This Nov. 22, 2013 file photo shows TV host Ellen DeGeneres at the Ellen DeGeneres officially launches the Duracell "Power a Smile" Program in Los Angeles.

NBC plans live version of 'The Music Man'

NEW YORK (AP)—NBC says it's planning to air a live production of "The Music Man."

NBC Entertainment Chairman Bob Greenblatt said Monday the network has acquired rights for a TV version of the 1957 Meredith Willson musical.

The network had success with a live production of "The Sound of Music" starring Carrie Underwood, and is following that with a live version of "Peter Pan" in December.

Craig Zadan and Neil Meron, the producers for "The Sound of Music" and "Peter Pan," did a 2003 TV version of "The Music Man" with Matthew Broderick and Kristin Chenoweth.

Greenblatt did not say if Zadan and Meron would produce the live "Music Man." An air date wasn't announced.

A 1962 big-screen version of the musical starred Robert Preston and Shirley Jones.

Mad Men's Ginsberg talks character's breakdown

NEW YORK (AP)—Actor Ben Feldman says he showed up Monday at NBC's preview to advertisers to promote his new romantic comedy "A to Z," expecting to get hammered with questions about "Mad Men."

Spoiler Alert: On Sunday's episode, his advertising copy writer character Michael Ginsberg had a mental breakdown tipped off by the introduction of a computer to the office.

If it sounds crazy it's because it was. The character began trending on Twitter soon after.

"(Mad Men's creator) Matt Weiner and I sat down a few weeks before that episode and he told me everything that was gonna happen and my jaw just dropped to the floor," the actor laughed.

Ginsberg is last seen in the episode being wheeled out of Sterling Cooper Draper Pryce on a gurney. Feldman says he can't say whether that's the end of his "Mad Men" run.

We will see Feldman on Thursdays this fall on "A to Z." It co-stars Cristin Milioti of Broadway's "Once" and "How I Met Your Mother," and follows the relationship of their characters, Andrew and Zelda.

The 33-year-old says you follow their journey "from start to maybe finish. ... you go into the first episode they've never met and you sort of take off from there. It's really, I hate this word, it's so cheesy but it's like a special show. ... My wife saw the trailer and she's like, `Oh, I have that like warm feeling.' And you kind of get that from watching."

ABC News building in New York named for Walters

NEW YORK (AP)—The ABC News headquarters in New York has been named in honor of Barbara Walters, who's retiring after a storied television reporting career that has spanned five decades.

ABC News says the 84-year-old Walters was honored on Monday in a ceremony dedicating The Barbara Walters Building in Manhattan.

Walters announced in 2013 she would be retiring this year from regular TV appearances. She's scheduled to say goodbye as co-host of "The View" on Friday.

The network says she'll remain an executive producer with the New York-based series and will make special ABC News appearances as events warrant.

AP

This March 26, 2014 photo provided by ABC shows, co-host Barbara Walters on "The View," in New York.

A Dear Abby dinner party blends good food and fun

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DEAR ABBY: I love cooking for my wife and friends. There are few things I find more pleasing than to put out a nice spread of food and watch people enjoy. I'm always on the lookout for more cookbooks, and you hold the key to my next big party.

I was reading through your archives and have seen many people asking about your cookbooklets. I'd love to get them. Can you print the ordering information again, so I can be sure I'm sending the right amount to the right place? Thanks!

MAN IN THE KITCHEN IN NORTH LITTLE ROCK

DEAR MAN IN THE KITCHEN: I'm glad to oblige. I have been a compulsive cookbook collector for many years, so I can relate. (I'm sure you will be pleased when you see that my cookbooklets, while wide-ranging in content, take up little space on your bookshelf.)

Your idea of throwing a "Dear Abby Dinner Party" is a good one, and I have been told the recipes provide a fun, traditional eating adventure. All of them are simple, easy-to-read and delicious.

One reader described creating place cards for her guests decorated with hearts and flowers. The centerpiece was a "bouquet" of envelopes addressed to me. Another reader said she copied questions from my column, printed them out and, as a party game, asked her guests to supply the answers. (She said that after a few glasses of wine, some of the responses were hilarious, but couldn't be printed in a family newspaper.)

My cookbooklet set contains more than 100 tasty recipes, ranging from soups to salads, appetizers, main courses and desserts, that can be used when families get together to celebrate holidays and other special occasions. My mother used many of them when she hosted parties, as have I. To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $14 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby - Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price. You will find tips on entertaining at the beginning of the first booklet. Anyone who hasn't entertained before should be sure to read them.

By following these suggestions, even the most nervous, first-time host can be confident. I know you will enjoy the recipes as much as we have and serve them with pride.

■■■

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY: It's not what you put on the table, but who you put in the chairs that makes a successful dinner party.

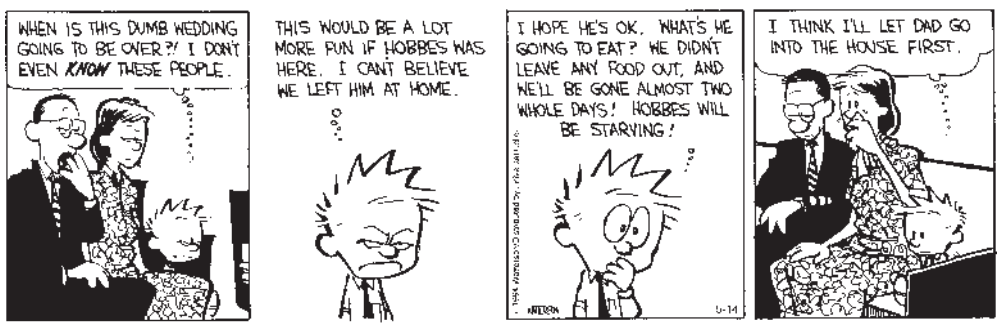
■■■

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

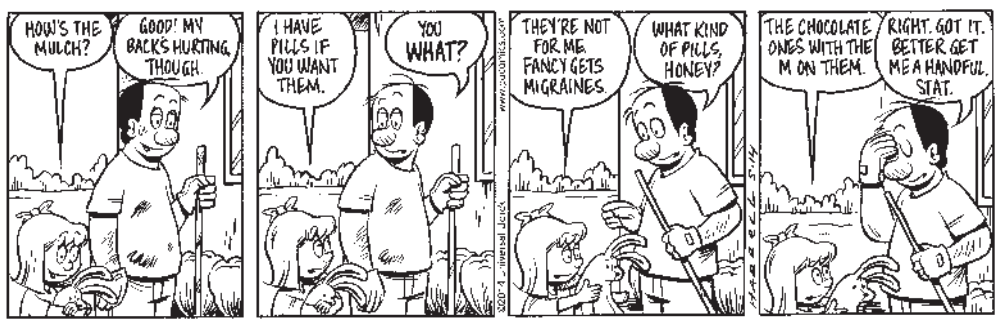

WHEN IS THIS DUMB WEDDING GOING TO BE OVER?! I DON'T EVEN KNOW THESE PEOPLE.
THIS WOULD BE A LOT MORE FUN IF HOBBES WAS HERE. I CAN'T BELIEVE WE LEFT HIM AT HOME.
I HOPE HE'S OK. WHAT'S HE GOING TO EAT? HE DIDN'T LEAVE ANY FOOD OUT, AND WE'LL BE GONE ALMOST TWO WHOLE DAYS! HOBBES WILL BE STARVING!
I THINK I'LL LET DAD GO INTO THE HOUSE FIRST.

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


HOW'S THE MULCH?
GOOD! MY BACK'S HURTING, THOUGH.
I HAVE PILLS IF YOU WANT THEM.
YOU WHAT?
THEY'RE NOT FOR ME. FANCY GETS MIGRAINES.
WHAT KIND OF PILLS, HONEY?
THE CHOCOLATE ONES WITH THE M ON THEM.
RIGHT. GOT IT. BETTER GET ME A HANDFUL. STAT.

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

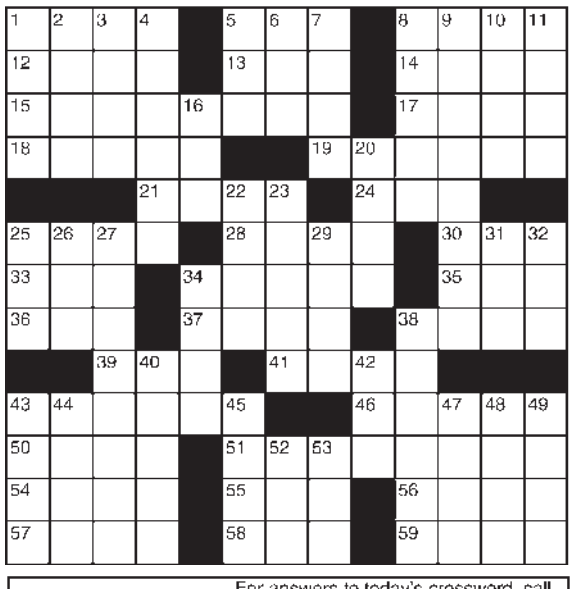
ACROSS
1 "J'Accuse" writer
5 Egg-yung link
8 Neat as —
12 Somalian supermodel
13 Young fellow
14 Ireland
15 Mary of silents
17 Cicatrix
18 Fashion
19 Really enthusiastic
21 Pound of poetry
24 Unclose, in verse
25 Coffee holders
28 Rue the run
30 Plagiarize
33 "What Kind of Fool —?"
34 Poked with a patella
35 Ram's mate
36 PC alternative
37 Taj Mahal city
38 Coaster
39 Jay follower
41 Highland hillside
43 Non — mentis
46 Composer Erik
50 NCAA's Miners
51 Dickens protagonist who founded a club
54 Synagogue
55 Commotion
56 Lotion additive
57 Le Pew of cartoons
58 Artist Peter
59 Longings

DOWN
1 Rushes
2 Leave out
3 Frilly, maybe
4 Sites for shackles
5 Waitress on "Alice"
6 Rowing need
7 Probability
8 Man of morals?
9 Walleye of a sort
10 "Dies —"
11 Dweeby sort
16 Tasseled cap
20 Three- — sloth
22 Pealed
23 Tart
25 Rotating part
26 Ms. Thurman
27 Bracer
29 Get wind of
31 Have bills
32 Foundation
34 Deck in the ring
38 St. Lawrence, for one
40 Tell's target
42 Request
43 Point
44 Will- — -wisp
45 Unwanted email
47 Mahjongg piece
48 Sacred image
49 Supplements, with "out"
52 Mrs. McKinley
53 "Friends" cast member

Solution time: 21 mins.

B	A	R	B	■	H	U	E	■	L	A	M	A
A	G	A	R	■	O	R	G	■	A	P	E	S
H	O	P	A	L	O	N	G	■	M	O	S	H
■	■	■	V	E	T	■	T	R	O	P	H	Y
V	A	J	O	R	■	D	I	E	U	■	■	■
A	M	E	S	■	J	U	M	P	R	O	P	E
P	O	D	■	R	O	D	E	O	■	M	A	Y
S	K	I	P	O	V	E	R	■	S	A	V	E
■	■	■	L	O	I	S	■	C	A	R	E	S
J	I	C	A	M	A	■	C	O	W	■	■	■
O	N	L	Y	■	L	E	A	P	Y	E	A	R
A	C	U	E	■	L	A	P	■	E	R	G	O
N	E	E	D	■	Y	R	S	■	R	E	E	D

Yesterday's answer 5-14



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Miranda Cosgrove, 21; Cate Blanchett, 45; Tim Roth, 53; George Lucas, 70

Happy Birthday: Being secretive will add to your charm and protect you from nosy individuals eager to use personal information against you. Sticking to a structured routine and refraining from any sort of indulgence will ensure that you bypass adversity, leaving more time to focus on your goals and your future. Take your time and choose your battles wisely. Your numbers are 4, 9, 18, 23, 34, 41, 45.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Moderation will be required to avoid mishaps. You can say "no" once in a while and still maintain your status quo. Don't let an argument drive a wedge between you and someone you love. Compromise more and criticize less. ✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Show everyone what you have to offer. Dependability and determination are your strengths and can carry you to and beyond your destination. Explore new possibilities and stabilize important partnerships. Deal with red tape concisely and avoid being red-flagged. ✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Assisting people is fine, but do so for the right reason. Having motives behind your do-good attitude will backfire if you aren't honest and upfront about what you are hoping to get in return. Love is in the stars. ✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Live a little. Participate in networking events or social activities. You'll discover someone you have a lot in common with and share some interesting ideas and plans that will help you reach your personal or professional objectives. Strive for equality. ✪✪✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Engage in conversations that will bring you knowledge or information that can help you make a good decision and an appropriate move. Don't let hype or trends cost you or lead you into an excessive situation. Channel your energy into romance. ✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Short trips, attending an exhibit or networking with colleagues will all lead to valuable information and the courage to make some positive changes to the way you live. Someone respected in your community will offer expert advice. ✪✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Don't succumb to demands or forceful action at home or at work. Stand up for your beliefs, but be prepared to make changes as a result of your actions. Weed out what isn't working in your life and make your move. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Check out different lifestyles, beliefs and organizations. Expanding your interests will bring you in touch with someone you click with creatively. Do something unusual to your home that will add to your pleasure and attract unusual visitors. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): You'll have to dig deep if you want to get all the information you need to make a good decision. Take the initiative and make domestic changes that will improve your life and your relationships, but don't overspend. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Offer a helping hand or well-thought-out suggestion, but step back if someone wants you to pay for or do the work on his or her behalf. Strive for equality in all your dealings. Don't take on a losing battle. ✪✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Listen carefully and make decisions based on the information you discover. A money deal looks good and a gift, loan or offering is heading in your direction. Love is highlighted and a promise can be made, along with a positive domestic change. ✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Look over documents and important personal papers. Present your plans to someone who is in a position to help you. A new venture looks promising and can open the door to some fascinating connections. Expand your outlook and your interests. ✪✪✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are unpredictable, interesting and adventuresome. You are excessive and generous.

*Eugenia's website—**eugenialast.com**, Eugenia's android app @ **http://bit.ly/exhoro** and join Eugenia on **twitter/facebook/linkedin**.*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

		5	7	6	2			
			5			3		
9		7					2	
6	9				5			3
	1						4	
5	7	4						8
3	2		8				6	
8				4	7	9		
			3	1				

Difficulty Level ★★★ 5/14

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

9	6	5	3	1	2	7	4	8
4	8	7	5	9	6	3	2	1
1	3	2	4	7	8	5	6	9
6	5	1	9	8	7	4	3	2
3	4	8	2	6	5	1	9	7
7	2	9	1	3	4	6	8	5
5	9	6	7	2	3	8	1	4
2	7	3	8	4	1	9	5	6
8	1	4	6	5	9	2	7	3

Difficulty Level ★★ 5/13

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

BLUE SKIES Solution: 10 letters

C	A	S	S	N	E	V	A	E	H	C	A	T	T	S
O	Ⓚ	U	N	I	G	H	T	W	I	L	I	G	H	T
L	X	Ⓢ	R	E	T	A	W	R	M	O	O	N	S	E
O	E	Y	Ⓤ	O	I	S	E	E	A	E	O	U	T	L
R	A	C	G	Ⓓ	R	T	A	T	L	I	D	I	A	P
S	T	Z	A	E	I	A	M	C	T	K	H	R	R	O
E	E	R	U	P	N	O	E	A	R	W	I	E	S	R
S	L	I	U	R	S	L	T	P	N	E	S	N	S	D
A	O	J	N	P	E	I	I	I	L	N	V	D	U	I
G	I	O	H	S	P	S	T	N	A	A	E	O	N	S
G	V	E	T	I	D	R	E	P	D	A	N	M	S	P
S	R	I	C	U	O	A	X	N	R	I	T	E	E	E
E	A	E	O	G	N	E	W	T	O	N	G	I	T	R
L	R	L	E	V	A	W	H	N	G	C	G	O	M	S
P	C	N	T	N	E	L	L	O	P	R	I	S	M	E

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Atmosphere, Aurorae, Azure, Celestial, Clouds, Colors, Cones, Dawn, Disperse, Dome, Droplets, Dusk, Dust, Earth, Expanse, Gases, Green, Heavens, Indigo, Jupiter, Moon, Newton, Night, Nitrogen, Overcast, Oxygen, Planets, Pollen, Precipitation, Prism, Radiate, Salt, Smog, Soot, Space, Stars, Sunset, Time, Twilight, Violet, Water, Wave, Welkin, White

Yesterday's Answer: Berries

Treasury 12, 13, 14, 15 or 16 can be purchased online at www.WonderWordBooks.com. (Contain 130 puzzles.)

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Position Requirement: High school graduate. GED or equivalent plus 2 years work experience as cook in a restaurant or hotel. Preferably with experience in Western, Japanese and Chinese cuisines. Must be energetic with an excellent track record in hospitality and who thrives in a fast-paced service environment. Must have strong team work skills. Must be willing to work shifts, evenings, holidays, and weekends. Highly motivated, organized and self-discipline.
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LeBron scores 49, Heat take 3-1 lead over Nets

NEW YORK (AP)—LeBron James had done his part to put the Miami Heat in control of the Eastern Conference semifinals, and one last free throw was meaningless except to him.

He missed, leaving him one shy of his first 50-point playoff game, muttering to himself after.

"That's the first time I've been disappointed in myself in a win," James said.

Then he smiled, realizing his performance left nothing to complain about.

James tied his playoff career high with 49 points, Chris Bosh made the tiebreaking 3-pointer with 57 seconds left, and the Heat beat the Brooklyn Nets 102-96 on Monday night for a 3-1 lead.

James carried the Heat nearly the entire way until Bosh hit the shot that put Miami ahead for good—a play where James resisted the temptation to force a shot, instead passing to Mario Chalmers, who swung it to a wide-open Bosh.

Ray Allen followed with four free throws and James finished it off with one more, putting the Heat in position to wrap it up at home Wednesday in Game 5.

James was 16 of 24 from the field and 14 of 19 from the free throw line in matching the 49 points he scored for Cleveland against Orlando in the 2009 Eastern Conference finals. He missed his second free throw with 1.1 seconds left.

"He was what was needed on the road and that's what makes him the best player in the game," Heat coach Erik Spoelstra said.

Spoelstra talked to James about coming out in the fourth quarter, but had about as much success as the Nets' defenders.

"He asked me and I didn't know if he was serious or not, and what I told him I cannot say again," James said. "So I wanted to finish out the game. I felt like it was a must-win for us."

Joe Johnson scored 18 points for the Nets, who were 15 of 25 from 3-point range in their Game 3 victory but only 5 of 22 in this one. Paul Pierce added 16 points.

"This is very difficult to swallow," Nets center Kevin Garnett said. "Hard to take, but it's what it is. Coulda, shoulda, woulda doesn't help us at this point."

Dwyane Wade scored 15 points on the night his Heat postseason record of 46 points was shattered. Bosh finished with 12.

Miami pulled out a thrilling victory in a game neither team led by double digits and has won at least one road game in 14 straight series, breaking the record set by the Chicago Bulls from 1991-94.

Garnett's two free throws tied it with 2:30 remaining. Bosh then missed a pair of 3-pointers before getting a third crack at it in the corner in front of the Brooklyn bench for a 97-94 lead. Johnson then missed a jumper while trying to draw James' sixth foul—Johnson said afterward James "flopped"—and Allen's free throws put it away.

AP

Brooklyn Nets forward Paul Pierce (34) defends Miami Heat forward LeBron James in the first half of Game 4 of their second-round NBA playoff basketball game at the Barclays Center, Monday, May 12, 2014, in New York.

"Obviously the series is not over but we really have to have some urgency going to Miami and we've got to come out of there with one," Johnson said.

Wade scored 46 points against Boston in the 2010 playoffs, and James' best in a Heat uniform had also come against the Celtics, his memorable 45-point performance that saved Miami's season in Game 6 of the 2012 Eastern Conference finals.

Pierce, who asked to guard James after Game 1, was on the wrong end of this LeBron masterpiece.

James and the Heat had shrugged off a couple days of chatter from Pierce, who said the Nets weren't afraid of them. But things were testy at the start, with first-quarter technical fouls for James, Pierce, Shane Battier and Alan Anderson. Miami started quickly again and led 27-22 after one behind 12 points from James.

He opened the second on the bench and Brooklyn started with a 9-2 spurt to take its first lead at 31-29. James was a force once he returned—especially after a second foul against him seemed to get James more annoyed than any of Pierce's talking did.

James gave Pierce a glare after a thunderous slam later in the period, when he had 13 points in just 7 1/2 minutes, and the Heat led 56-49.

James had 13 straight Miami points in the third, but Brooklyn cut it to one on a few occasions before he made a pair of free throws to give Miami a 79-76 lead.

Trail Blazers 103, Spurs 92

In Portland, Ore., Nicolas Batum had a simple question for his Portland teammates: "Why not us?"

No other team has come back from a 3-0 deficit to win a playoff series. But the Trail Blazers took the first step Monday night by beating the San Antonio Spurs 103-92 to stave off elimination and narrow the Western Conference semifinal series to 3-1.

"Why not us? No, it's never been done before," Batum said. "We know it's going to be tough. It won't be easy, especially against this team.'

The French forward had 14 points, 14 rebounds and eight assists and pestered countryman Tony Parker all night. Damian Lillard had 25 points to lead the Blazers, who won their first second-round playoff game since a victory over Utah in the 2000 conference semifinals.

"We had nothing to lose tonight. We had no pressure. It was do or die," Batum said. "So we just go out there and play."

Portland held Parker to 14 points after he had scored 29 points or more in three of his last four playoff games. Coach Gregg Popovich sat Parker and Tim Duncan after Portland built a 20-point lead in the final quarter.

The Spurs are looking to advance to the conference finals for the third straight season. Game 5 is Wednesday night in San Antonio.

"The energy was weird tonight," Parker said. "You have to give a lot of credit to Portland. They played great. They came out of the gates and I thought Batum was great tonight. He gave them a big boost."

The Blazers were the last team to take a series to seven games after dropping the first three. Portland rebounded in the first round against Dallas in 2003, but ultimately lost the deciding game in the first-round series.

The Blazers have been hurt by the loss of backup point guard Mo Williams to a groin injury for the past two games. Williams provided both energy and points off the bench all season in relief of Lillard.

Portland got just six points off the bench in Game 3, but Will Barton provided a spark with 17 points on Monday night.

Barton became the first Blazer with 17 points and six rebounds off the bench in a playoff game since Brian Grant in 2000 against Utah.

"Any time you get a boost off the bench it's always good for a momentum swing," San Antonio's Danny Green said. "When he comes in and gets the crowd into it, they pretty much get it going, and it helped them a lot. "

Coach Terry Stotts promised that the Blazers would play with pride in Game 4 and they did from the start.

Lillard's pull up jumper gave Portland a 14-8 lead. He extended it to 20-14 with a layup. But the Spurs answered with a 9-2 run and took a 24-23 lead on Patty Mills' 3-pointer.

Portland, which had only led twice in the previous three games, quickly reclaimed the lead and held on until Tiago Splitter tied it at 46 with a free throw. The Blazers had a 50-48 lead at the half.

"I though with the way Nico (Batum) played, the game came a lot easier," Lillard said. "He was attacking, making plays. He was pushing the ball."

Lillard opened the second half with a 3-pointer. Batum hit a 3 and added a free throw to push the lead to 69-61.

Batum added another 3 before Thomas Robinson's dunk and Lillard's 3 made it 77-63 to cap a 12-2 Portland run.

Lillard's layup put Portland ahead 90-72 in the fourth quarter. He added another to make it 94-74.

"If they lost today it was a sweep, but they've got pride and they played good," Manu Ginobili said. "They played the game more desperately than we did. We didn't bring the same emotions the first three games. The bottom line is they played better than us in every aspect of the game.

Parker scored 29 points in San Antonio's 118-103 Game 3 victory on Saturday night. The Spurs had routed the Blazers 116-92 in the series opener after their grueling seven-game series against the Mavericks, then built a 20-point lead and won Game 2, 114-97.

Sterling stirs new dispute with Magic-HIV remarks

LOS ANGELES (AP)—An interview that was supposed to be an attempt at rehabilitation instead had Los Angeles Clippers owner Donald Sterling facing fresh rebukes as he went from apologizing for recent racist remarks to slamming Magic Johnson, repeatedly bringing up the ex-NBA star's HIV status and calling him an unfit role model for children.

"He's got AIDS!" Sterling said loudly at one point in the interview, cutting off CNN's Anderson Cooper as the interviewer attempted to cite Johnson's accomplishments after Sterling asked, "What has he done, big Magic Johnson, what has he done?"

The comments earned Sterling quick condemnation from the league that was already trying to rid itself of the owner.

Commissioner Adam Silver, who gave Sterling a lifetime ban and $2.5 million fine two weeks ago, issued a statement saying, "while Magic Johnson doesn't need me to, I feel compelled on behalf of the NBA family to apologize to him that he continues to be dragged into this situation and be degraded by such a malicious and personal attack."

"The NBA Board of Governors is continuing with its process to remove Mr. Sterling as expeditiously as possible," the commissioner added.

Johnson, who is scheduled to appear on Cooper's show to reply on Tuesday, wrote on his Twitter account that "I'd rather be talking about these great NBA Playoffs than Donald Sterling's interview."

Johnson later Tweeted, "After this week, no more Sterling talk."

Sterling changed course briefly during the interview to call Johnson "a good person," but soon resumed his criticism.

"He acts so holy," Sterling said. "He made love to every girl in every city in America, and he had AIDS, and when he had those AIDS, I went to my synagogue and I prayed for him, I hope he could live and be well. I didn't criticize him. I could have. Is he an example for children?"

Cooper corrected Sterling, explaining that Johnson was HIV-positive but did not have "full-blown AIDS."

Sterling briefly adjusted his language but not his tone.

"What kind of a guy goes to every city, has sex with every girl, then he catches HIV. Is that someone we want to respect, and tell our kids about?" Sterling said. "I think he should be ashamed of himself."

Buehrle gets seventh win, Blue Jays top Angels, 7-3

TORONTO (AP)—Mark Buehrle became the first seven-game winner in the majors, and Jose Bautista and Brett Lawrie homered as the Toronto Blue Jays beat the Los Angeles Angels 7-3 Monday to avoid a four-game sweep.

Buehrle (7-1) allowed two runs and six hits in six-plus innings. He walked a season-high five and struck out two. The left-hander came in with an AL-leading 1.91 ERA, but saw that rise to 2.04, the same as Detroit's Max Scherzer.

Bautista hit a three-run homer in the first inning and Lawrie, who returned to the lineup after missing six games with a sore right hamstring, added a two-run shot in the sixth as the Blue Jays avoided what would have been their first four-game sweep to the Angels.

Both homers came off Angels left-hander C.J. Wilson (4-3), who allowed five runs and six hits in six innings.

Tigers 4, Orioles 1

In Baltimore, Rick Porcello won his fifth straight start as Detroit beat Baltimore in a duel between AL division leaders that included a benches-clearing confrontation.

After Ian Kinsler's two-run homer in the eighth made it 4-1, Orioles starter Bud Norris hit Torii Hunter in the ribcage with a pitch. Hunter yelled at Norris, and as he made his way toward first base, the Tigers outfielder moved slightly in the direction of the mound.

That caused both dugouts to empty, and relievers from both bullpens charged toward the infield. Order was quickly restored before anyone blatantly shoved each other, and no punches were thrown.

Norris (2-3) was ultimately ejected by plate umpire James Hoye. As the right-hander made his way toward the Baltimore dugout, he shouted once more at Hunter, who yelled back.

Joe Nathan got his eighth save, preserving the win for Porcello (6-1).

Rangers 4, Astros 0

In Houston, Colby Lewis threw 5 2-3 shutout innings, and Adrian Beltre and Rougned Odor each homered to lead Texas over Houston.

Lewis (3-2) struck out a season-high eight and allowed seven hits to improve to 4-0 in his career at Minute Maid Park. The right-hander bounced back from a poor outing against Colorado on Wednesday where he allowed seven runs in less than four innings.

Beltre had two hits, including a two-run home run to left in the third. Odor had two hits, including a run-scoring single in the fourth and his first career home run in the sixth — a solo shot into the upper deck in right field — to make it 4-0. Prince Fielder also had two hits.

Brad Peacock (0-4) struck out a career-high 11 but allowed four runs on seven hits in six innings.

Athletics 5, White Sox 4

In Oakland, California, Jesse Chavez struck out seven batters and came up an inning short of his first career complete game as Oakland held on to beat Chicago for its season-high fifth straight win.

Chavez (3-1) gave up five hits and walked two. He allowed only solo home runs to Dayan Viciedo and Jose Abreu, whose major-league leading 14th long ball in the ninth chased the right-hander.

Josh Donaldson hit a go-ahead, two-run homer in the fifth for Oakland, and Josh Reddick hit a tying triple in the second off John Danks (3-3). Jed Lowrie added a two-run double in the seventh that proved pivotal after the White Sox scored three runs in the ninth.

Left-hander Sean Doolittle recorded the final three outs for his second save.

Mariners 12, Rays 5

In Seattle, Felix Hernandez got plenty of run support as Seattle topped Tampa Bay after hitting two early drives off the top of the wall, requiring video reviews on consecutive batters.

James Jones doubled, singled and scored in each of the first three innings as the Mariners took a 9-0 lead. Robinson Cano drove in two runs and Hernandez (4-1) cruised to the win.

The rare back-to-back replays came in the first inning as Cano and then Corey Hart both barely missed home runs on flys that hit the yellow line atop the fence and bounced back. Umpires ruled both balls in play, and their calls were confirmed.

Cano wound up with a double on his drive to left field, Hart was thrown out trying for a double on his shot to right.

Mets 9, Yankees 7

In New York, Chris Young hit a tiebreaking homer in the eighth inning and Jenrry Mejia provided a jolt after his reluctant move to the bullpen as the previously punchless Mets went deep four times to rally past the Yankees in the Subway Series opener.

Curtis Granderson connected in his return to Yankee Stadium, and the Mets also got long balls from Eric Young Jr. and Travis d'Arnaud while overcoming a pair of three-run deficits. Lumbering first baseman Lucas Duda turned in two spectacular defensive plays, starting a game-ending double play with runners at the corners by making a diving stop of Brian McCann's sharp grounder.

Taking full advantage of the hitter-friendly confines across town, rather than the vast dimensions back home at Citi Field, the Mets hit four home runs in a game for the first time since May 3, 2013, in Atlanta, according to STATS.

Cubs 17, Cardinals 5

In St. Louis, Junior Lake homered, doubled twice and drove in six runs as the Chicago Cubs broke loose, routing St. Louis and forcing the Cardinals to finish with infielder Daniel Descalso as a relief pitcher.

After the Cubs totaled just four runs while getting swept in a three-game series at Atlanta over the weekend, Emilio Bonifacio scored five times himself in this romp over the Cardinals.

Chicago had lost seven of eight overall and has the worst record in the league at 13-24, but is 4-3 against the defending NL champions.

The Cubs hit for the cycle in the first five batters — Bonifacio doubled, Anthony Rizzo singled, Starlin Castro tripled and Mike Olt's two-run homer capped a four-run first inning.

Cardinals reliever Randy Choate gave up six runs in the ninth and left with two outs. Descalso made his first pro pitching appearance and retired the only batter he faced, getting Olt on a fly ball.

Travis Wood (3-4) beat St. Louis for the second time in three starts despite giving up five runs in six innings.

Tyler Lyons (0-3) surrendered nine runs in four innings in his fourth start in place of injured Joe Kelly.

Dodgers 6, Marlins 5

In Los Angeles, Yasiel Puig extended his career-best hitting streak to 12 games with his third home run in four days, a go-ahead three-run shot, and drew a bases-loaded walk in Los Angeles victory over Florida.

Dan Haren (5-1) overcame a shaky start following his 3-2 loss at Washington last Wednesday, allowing three runs and seven hits over seven innings without walking a batter after losing his previous four decisions against the Marlins.

Brian Wilson inherited a 6-3 lead from Haren and promptly gave up a leadoff walk to Christian Yelich and a home run by pinch-hitter and former Dodger Reed Johnson on the next pitch. But Kenley Jansen pitched a perfect ninth for his 12th save.

Yelich helped stake Tom Koehler (3-3) to a 3-1 lead with a solo homer in the third, but the Marlins' right-hander never made it through the fourth.

Giants 4, Braves 2

In San Francisco, Tim Lincecum struck out 11 in his best start of the year for San Francisco and Tyler Colvin backed him with a home run and a go-ahead, two-run triple in the seventh inning.

Lincecum (3-2) left to a roaring standing ovation after pitching a season-high 7 2-3 innings in his first start of eight getting past the sixth.

B.J. Upton hit a tying solo homer in the fifth, then was caught stealing on replay review as the potential go-ahead run in the top of the seventh.

Upton hit a one-out double and was ruled to have stolen third on a slide below a reaching Pablo Sandoval. Giants manager Bruce Bochy challenged the call by third base umpire Dana DeMuth, and it was overturned in 2 minutes, 7 seconds.

Nationals 6, Diamondbacks 5

In Phoenix, pinch-hitter Kevin Frandsen and Danny Espinosa each hit solo homers in the ninth inning, helping Washington rally past Arizona in Matt Williams' return to the desert.

Williams was a fixture in Arizona before becoming Washington's manager this offseason.

His new team scored four runs early, shut down for four innings, and tied it when Espinosa hit the second pitch of the ninth by Addison Reed (1-3) just over the wall in right.

Frandsen put the Nationals up by lining his second career pinch-hit homer to left and Rafael Soriano stranded a runner at second in the ninth for his eighth save.

Tyler Clippard (3-2) pitched a scoreless inning, Ian Desmond hit a two-run homer and Tyler Moore added a solo shot for Washington.

A.J. Pollock hit a two-run homer and Aaron Hill had three hits for Arizona.

AP

Toronto Blue Jays starting pitcher Mark Buehrle pitches against the Los Angeles Angels during first inning American League baseball action in Toronto on Monday, May 12, 2014.

Browns not guaranteeing Manziel starting job

CANTON, Ohio (AP)—As the crowd of football fans bowed their heads before Browns owner Jimmy Haslam spoke, a priest delivering the invocation asked for a special blessing for new quarterback Johnny Manziel.

He may need more than divine intervention.

"Father, I don't think I've ever heard a prayer like that," Haslam told the clergy man. "I'm not sure what Brian Hoyer thought of that either."

Speaking for the first time since the Browns landed Manziel, Texas A&M's playmaking quarterback in the NFL draft, Haslam made it clear that Johnny Football will have to earn everything he gets and won't jump Brian Hoyer on the depth chart just because he has a Heisman Trophy, celebrity friends or fame.

"He's not the starter," Haslam said of Manziel.

Haslam spoke Monday to a packed room of 500—most of them hardcore Cleveland fans, who wanted to know how the Browns' boss felt the team did in the three-day draft.

Cleveland's biggest move was picking the polarizing Manziel with the No. 22 overall pick in the first round. His selection has brought a buzz to the Browns and sparked sales of season tickets and No. 2 jerseys.

And while Haslam is thrilled at the pick, he said the Browns—starting with first-year coach Mike Pettine—have told Manziel not to expect any preferential treatment.

"We were very frank with him that `You're the backup quarterback. This is a hardworking, blue-collar town. This isn't Hollywood,'" Haslam said.

"We want you to come in here, work hard and work as hard as anybody on the team. He's not the starter. Brian Hoyer is our starting quarterback. Johnny is the backup."

Haslam called Manziel "ultra-competitive" and feels the 21-year-old will come to training camp with the right attitude. He knows Manziel wants to prove he can succeed in the pros.

"I think you'll find a guy that's really hard-working, a serious guy that doesn't want to be a three-year-in-the-league flash-and-out who makes a lot of money on endorsements," Haslam said.

"He's a football player. He was a little upset he went 22. He was a little upset he was the second quarterback picked. I think he comes in with a little bit of a chip on his shoulder and wants to show the people he's about winning games and not about all the other `stuff,' if you will."

Following the speech, Haslam also denounced a report that the Browns originally submitted Lousiville quarterback Teddy Bridgewater's name on the draft card at No. 22 before changing it to Manziel's.

"That's crazy. That's nuts," Haslam told The Associated Press.

Earlier, Pettine shot down the same report at the team's charity golf outing in Aurora.

"It's absolutely false," Pettine said. "I heard that story too. It's beyond laughable."

Rollers, Hoops pull off close wins

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The Rollers and Hoopaholics held their ground in the fourth quarter to thwart separate opponents in the 2014 QQ Rent A Car Invitational Basketball League last Monday night at the Garapan Basketball Court.

The Hoops edged the Rebels in the first game, 75-74, while the Rollers nipped High-Five, 76-74.

C.J. Morales and Prince Factor made some defensives stops in the homestretch and scored the Rollers' last 3 points to lift their team to the 1-point win, while High-Five committed a couple of errors in the closing minutes to absorb its fourth straight loss.

Morales' drive against Tim Wesley and Ken McCain broke the last deadlock, 74-72, 1:48 left on the clock. Earlier at the two-minute mark, Don Brennan made a basket from the baseline after a drop off pass from Derrick Aughenbaugh to tie the match, 72-all.

High-Five tried to even up the count anew, but the Rollers tightened up its defense from the backcourt, forcing McCain to throw a hurried pass to Charlie Peters, who was rushing toward their frontcourt. The pass was a bit strong and Morales beat Peters to the ball, returning possession to the Rollers, which upped its lead to 3, 75-72, after Factor was fouled on the other end and split his free throws, less than a minute left in the game.

A quick 2-point basket from Peter's post-up move on Mike Espinosa kept High-Five in the game, 74-75, and the latter had a chance to grab the lead with another field goal after the Rollers was called for a 24-second shot clock violation. However, McCain had butterfingers, as he lost the leather after receiving a pass from Bobby Coldeen at the post with Factor guarding him.

A Rollers muffed offensive set gave High-Five another opportunity to seize the lead, but Brennan's inbound pass hit Wesley's knee before the ball rolled out to the sideline. Before that miscue, McCain was jockeying for position at the left block against Factor and both players appeared to be falling on the ground with contact, but the referees let them go.

With another High-Five booboo, the Rollers got the ball back with eight seconds left in the game and the former was forced to give up two fouls to stop the clock and test the latter's nerves at the free throw line. Dixon Kwon trooped to the line and hit the first one before intentionally missing the second with two seconds left in the match. Augenbaugh collared the rebound, but ran out of time to pull up for a desperation shot.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Rollers' C.J. Morales tries to elude the defense of High-Five's Ken McCain during the second quarter of their game in the QQ caging last Monday night at the Garapan Basketball Court.

Meanwhile, in the first game, the Hoops survived the Rebels' third-quarter rally to eke out the close win.

Ahead by twin digits at the break, 39-28, the Hoops were threatened in the third period, as the Rollers moved within a point, 55-56, off a 27-17 scoring run that canto. The game went back and forth since then, but the Hoops escaped with the victory with Kelvin Fitial, Dexter Tenorio, and James Villacrusis hitting timely baskets. The trio combined for 15 of the Hoops' 19 points in the fourth quarter.

With the win, the Hoops snapped their four-game losing skid and improved their record to 2-5 for sixth place in the eight-team field. JP World leads the league with its 6-1 slate, followed by Blue Haus (5-1), Toka (5-1), Island Manpower (4-3), Rollers (2-3), High-Five (1-6), and Rebels (0-6).

First Game

Hoopaholics 75 – Villacrusis 25, Fitial 12, Lauron 10, Tenorio 9, Itibus 6, Manibusan 6, Cabrera 2, Mendez 2, Villagomez 2.

Rebels 74 – Babauta 11, Litulumar 11, Norita 9, Deleon Guerrero 9, Manglona 5, Matsutaro 5, Teregeyo 4, Lisua 3.

Scoring by quarters: 14-13, 39-28, 56-55, 75-74.

Second Game

Rollers 76 – Morales 28, Kwon 10, Ano 7, Cayading 7, Factor 6, Fidelino 5, Espinosa 5, Nakayama 3, Arciaga 2.

High-Five 74 – McCain 19, Pangelinan 13, Park 11, Brennan 10, Peters 8, Augenbaugh 6, Wesley 5, Coldeen 1.

SWIM

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established on Jan. 12, 2002, in the girls 11 to 12 age group.

In the boys 9 to 10 age group, Ryuto earned a pair of records. The first one was in the 200m butterfly, as he timed in at 2:56.86 to eclipse his own mark (3:03.63) posted on May 24, 2013. Ryuto's other record was made in the 50m backstroke, as he finished the event in 38.13 seconds, surpassing the 39.05 seconds Kento Akimaru of SSC logged on April 16, 2011.

Ryuto's oldest brother, Kaito, reset his own record in the 50m breaststroke in the boys 13 to 14 division, clocking in at 33.13 seconds in the May competition to better the 33.20 seconds he tallied a few months ago during the SSC International Meet (March 22, 2014).

Fourteen other swimmers also raced in the 50m breaststroke and half of them gained PBTs. In the girls 9 to 10, siblings Coume (56.10 seconds) and Conatsu (49.81 seconds) Kaga led SSC's PBT rush, while their teammates Susana Villagomez (1:11.07), Leo Takahashi (59.05 seconds), and Lennosuke Suzuki (43.82 seconds) had the same feat. Tsunami's Kyona Rivera and Katherin Illahi also earned PBTs after recording 46.38 seconds and 55.32 seconds, respectively.

The Kaga sisters also had PBTs in the 400m freestyle after Conatsu touched the wall at 6:14:46 (from 7:22:85) and Coume at 6:59.69 (8:34.69). Also registering PBTs in the 400m freestyle were SSC's Christian Villacrusis and Tsunami Saipan's Mark Maestro. Villacrusis chopped about 30 seconds from his previous PBT (5:55.54) after recording 5:25.32, while Maestro had a bigger drop, from 6:15.68 to 5:28.05

In another freestyle event—the 100m—12 posted PBTs. Leading the list and also registering the fastest time was Kento Akimaru, who timed in at 1:05.68. Joining him were fellow SSC swimmers David Boyer (1:12.25), Lennosuke Suzuki (1:13.10), Taiga Sato (1:14.11), and Richard Villagomez (1:39.70), and Tsunami Saipan's Kyona Rivera (1:21.69), Illahi (1:32.28), Angel De Jesus (1:07.56), Kenshiro Yanai (1:17.04), Nelson Battalones (1:29.69), and Sophia Gauran (1:16:79).

Meanwhile, the PBTs of other SSC and Tsunami swimmers will be reported in *Saipan Tribune*'s Thursday edition, along with other highlights of the last local tournament of the season.

HOPWOOD

From Page 28

School and Saipan Community School, which joined Hopwood in the podium and received trophies from McDonald's Saipan general manager Marcia Ayuyu and her son Joe. The ACF Torchbearers gathered 42 points, tallying 14 in the 3,00m, eight each in the 4x400m relay and mixed relay, and six apiece in the 1,500m, and 4x100m relay to edge SCS, which notched 40 markers. Saipan Community got points from five running events and four field competitions.

In the girls division, Hopwood claimed its most points via the 100m run (30 points) and collected more in six other running events to go with its 63 points in three field contests. Hopwood more than doubled the total points of runner-up Agape, which nailed 66 points off four running events and two field competitions. Saipan International School rounded out the Top 3 with its 28 points.

BREWERS

From Page 28

After the big defensive stop from Kaipat, the Brewers poured in three runs at the bottom of the seventh inning for more cushion, 6-2. Relief pitcher Roy Celis hit an RBI single in the seventh and stole home, while catcher Manny Sablan logged the other run, reaching home off a Yankees miscue.

A quick two outs at the top of the eighth off a 6-3 putout play and a strikeout put the Yankees in deep trouble before Kapileo singled, but was later stranded, as the Brewers caught another fly ball. The Brewers then ended the inning with one more run off Harry Nakamura's RBI double.

The defending champions went on to frustrate the Yankees anew at the top of the last inning with a 1-2-3 play. Leadoff hitter A. J. Lizama singled, but was later tagged out at first, as he attempted to steal second, but saw Celis going for a throw and decided to return to first base and paid for the gamble. Celis then finished off the Yankees in style, striking out the last two batters.

Before Celis took over the mound, the Brewers utilized two other pitchers to neutralize the Yankees' hitters. Manny Cabrera started out for the Tony Rogolifoi-managed squad and pitch six innings. Cabrera gave up only two hits in a five-inning shutdown on the Yankees, stranding five runners and striking out three. Fatigue then took its toll on the Brewers starting pitcher, as he allowed four hits alone at the top of the sixth, forcing Rogolifoi to bring in Lenny Sablan at the top of the seventh.

Lenny Sablan began his shift by giving up a single to Yankees leadoff hitter Tom Joab before working out a 1-3 putout play on Lizama, while another 5-3 putout play moved the Brewers one out away from closing the inning. However, the Yankees hung in there, as Sablan walked the next two batters and the former went on load the bases. With Lenny Sablan struggling and the Yankees threatening to turn a 2-3 deficit to a possible lead, Rogolifoi pulled out Lenny Sablan in favor of the veteran Celis. The Brewers closer showed some stability despite a short stint at the mound and drew help from his teammates for the strong finish that gave the defending champions a 2-0 lead in the series.

Game 3 will be played tonight with the Brewers aiming to close the show and Yankees hoping to live for another day.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Baltimore	20	16	.556	–
Boston	19	18	.514	1½
New York	19	18	.514	1½
Toronto	19	20	.487	2½
Tampa Bay	16	23	.410	5½

Central Division

Detroit	22	12	.647	–
Kansas City	18	19	.486	5½
Chicago	19	21	.475	6
Cleveland	18	20	.474	6
Minnesota	17	19	.472	6

West Division

Oakland	24	15	.615	–
Seattle	20	18	.526	3½
Los Angeles	19	18	.514	4
Texas	20	19	.513	4
Houston	12	27	.308	12

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

Atlanta	21	16	.568	–
Washington	20	18	.526	1½
Miami	20	19	.513	2
New York	18	19	.486	3
Philadelphia	17	19	.472	3½

Central Division

Milwaukee	24	14	.632	–
St. Louis	19	20	.487	5½
Cincinnati	17	19	.472	6
Pittsburgh	16	21	.432	7½
Chicago	13	24	.351	10½

West Division

San Francisco	25	14	.641	–
Colorado	23	17	.575	2½
Los Angeles	21	19	.525	4½
San Diego	18	21	.462	7
Arizona	15	26	.366	11

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

2014 Saipan Little League Baseball

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO

A McDonald's runner slides home safely during a regular season game against the Braves in the Major division of the 2014 Saipan Little League Baseball at the Miguel "Tan Ge" Basa Pangelinan Ballfield.

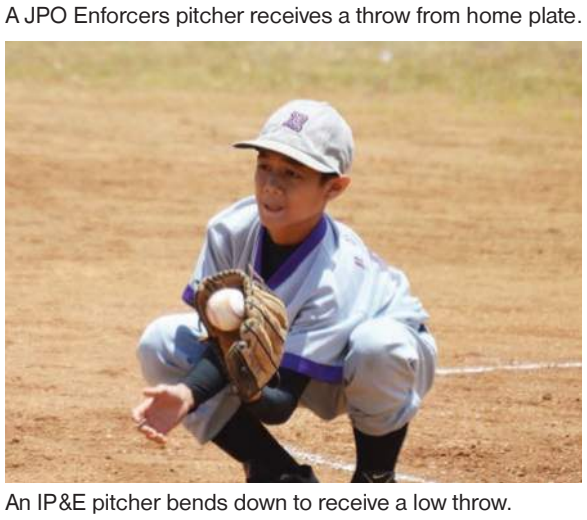
McDonald's Henry Fleming makes eye contact with his catcher before throwing a pitch to the Braves.

A Braves infielder throws to first base.

A JPO Enforcers pitcher receives a throw from home plate.

A Falcons runner waits for the next play, while Laolao Bay players stay back on defense.

A Comets I player is at bat during their game against the IP&E Rockies.



An IP&E pitcher bends down to receive a low throw.

A Little Legals batter dodges a hit by pitch.

A Falcons coach checks on his runner at third base.

A Red Sox third baseman picks up a foul ball.

LeBron scores 49, Heat take 3-1 lead over Nets

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Sports

Buehrle gets seventh win, Blue Jays top Angels, 7-3

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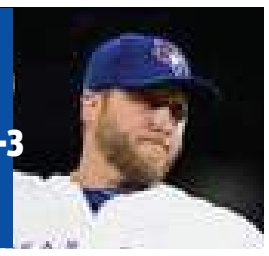

Swim records fall in last NMISF meet

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Tsunami Saipan's Miku Tammy, seen here racing against a Guam swimmer in the 100m backstroke during the SSC International Meet this year, set a new record in the girls 11 to 12s 100m backstroke during NMISF's season-ending tournament early this month at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Four new age group records and a bunch of personal best times marked the last meet Northern Mariana Islands Swimming Federation sanctioned for the 2013-2014 season.

Tsunami Saipan's Ryuto and Kaito Yanai and Miku Tammy set new age group mark, while their teammates and swimmers from Saipan Swim Club combined for 49 PBTs in a fruitful finale meet held last May 3 at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool in Marpi.

Tammy broke a 12-year-old record in the 100m backstroke after registering 1:17.79 in the last local tournament of the season. Her time shattered the 1:19.76 Myana Welch of SSC

See SWIM on Page 26

Hopwood reigns in junior high division

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
A Hopwood Junior High School student competes in the long jump event in the U14 division of the 2014 McDonald's/PSS All Schools Athletics Championships last Friday at the Oleai Sports Complex.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Hopwood Junior High School was the runaway winner in the junior high division of the 2014 McDonald's/PSS All Schools Athletics Championships held at the Oleai Sports Complex last week.

The Hilitais overwhelmed their foes both in the boys and girls divisions to sweep the junior high competition. In the boys division, Hopwood collected 210 points, the second most points earned by any division team (Marianas High School's girls squad had the most with 211 points), while the girls got 166 points.

Hopwood was led by siblings J.J. and Jessme Jones, who topped multiple events in the tournament held from Thursday to Saturday last week. Other members of the team were Nikolai Balbin, Matthew Kapileo, Ryutaro Litulumar, Falaisios Angel, Tyvieann They, Joshalyn Flores, Shania Salas, Dorleen Naka, Arriane Antonio, Shainalyn Lizama, Bud Jason Norita, Angelo Deliola, Neldreyton Skerei, Dustin Ngirchongor, Theyvin They, Catherine Moses, Liana Depich, Catherin Moses, Ryan Relucio, Faster Ucherbelau, Lyka Sally, Shania Saures, Mika Toyoko, James Ermitanio, and Chloe Salvosa. Frankie Angel is Hopwood's head coach.

Hopwood competed in nine of the 10 running events, getting 28 points each in the 100m, 200m, and 400m run, 22 in the 800m race, 18 in the 60m and 1,500m and 10 apiece in the three relays (4x100m, 4x400m and mixed relay). Points are awarded based on how participants finished in each event. The Hilitais were way ahead of Agape Christian

See HOPWOOD on Page 26

Brewers near title sweep in SBL

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

A sweep is brewing in the championship series of the 2014 Saipan Baseball League.

The GSM Brewers moved a win away from wrapping up their best-of-five title showdown against the Saipan Stevedore Yankees, following a methodical 7-2 victory in Game 2 of the finals last Wednesday night at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

Again, the Brewers' defense proved to be unforgiving, as it allowed the Yankees to score in only one inning. The Yankees, who suffered a 2-5 loss in Game 1 after earning runs only in the eighth inning, lit up the scoreboard in the sixth and were without runs in the eight other innings in Game 2.

Mel Sakisat's RBI single and Brian Camacho's run off a sacrifice bunt from Gary Cruz at the top of the sixth inning helped the Yankees force a deadlock, 2-all. The Brewers got their two runs earlier at the bottom of the second inning off Ton Leon Guerrero and Marvin Kaipat' RBI singles and quickly regained the upper hand at the bottom of the sixth, 3-2, after Mike Pangelinan reached off an error from Yankees second baseman Kelvin Kapileo.

Just behind by one, the Yankees bungled a golden opportunity to tie the match anew or even grab the upper hand, as they had three runners left stranded at the top of the seventh inning. Yankees were on the corners with two outs when Cruz connected on his target, but the fly ball landed on the waiting hands of Kaipat at centerfield to spoil the pennant champions' bid.

See BREWERS on Page 26

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
The Brewers' Roy Celis shows a Yankees batter the ball before throwing a pitch during Game 2 of their title series in the 2014 Saipan Baseball League last Monday night at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.